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# Canadian

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# LABOUR MARKET

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

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JANUARY  
1947

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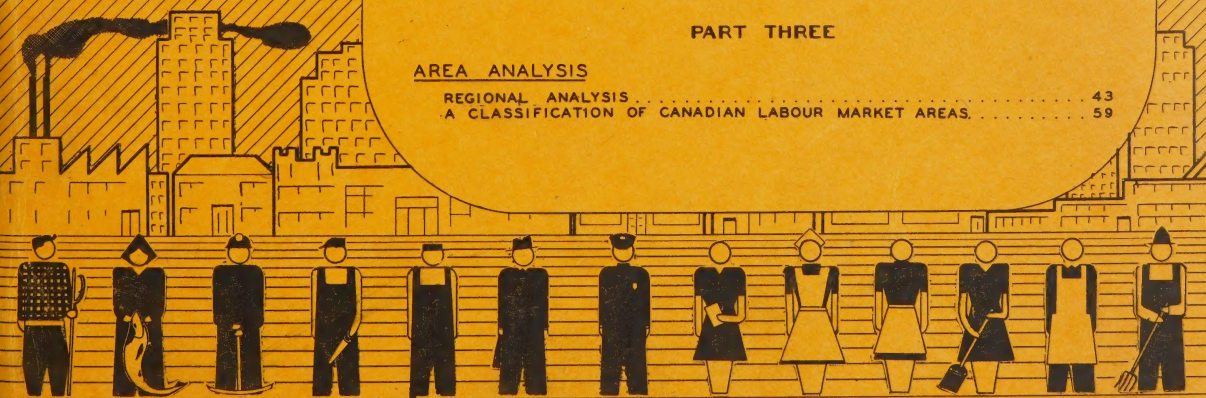
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- AS WE GO TO PRESS -

The total volume of employment in Canada amounted to 4,733,000 persons at November 9, 1946, according to the latest results of the sample labour force surveys of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was almost 127,000 less than at August 31, 1946. The drop was seasonal and was concentrated in agriculture. Most of the workers withdrew from the labour force for the winter months. Unemployment, therefore, remained about the same, 115,000. This was under 3 per cent of the labour force. It is not likely that it will rise above 4 per cent during the winter months. At February 23, 1946, unemployment amounted to 4.7 per cent of the total civilian labour force.

Unplaced applicants in Canada, registered with National Employment Service offices, have climbed sharply during November, December, and January. The first two weeks of February, however, saw a sudden termination of this rate of increase. Unplaced applicants numbered 197,300 at February 13, 1947, only 1,600 higher than at January 30, 1947. Earlier fortnightly increases had ranged from 6,000 to 17,000. This year the peak in unplaced applicants has been reached one month earlier than heretofore and is about 70,000 below that of last year.

Unplaced ex-servicemen in Canada, up 9,000 from the end of December, totalled 62,000 at January 31, 1947. Jobless veterans out of work 15 days or more numbered 45,000 at the end of January, against 37,000 for the end of December. Those unplaced 15 days or more constituted 70 per cent of all jobless veterans at January 31, against 69 per cent at the end of December. Unplaced veterans at January 31 again this month formed 32 per cent of all unplaced applicants.

Discharges of service personnel during January of this year dwindled to 1,500, as compared with 2,000 for December. The end of January found a total (from V-J day on) of about 694,000 veterans back in civilian life. Forecasts of discharges in February and March are 2,000 and 3,000 respectively.

A classification of Canadian labour market areas at January 30, 1947, places one area in the Acute unemployment category, and three other areas in the Serious unemployment group. For the eighth consecutive month, New Glasgow-Pictou is classified as Acute, corresponding to unemployment conditions in the "Mid-Thirties". Sydney, Amherst and Windsor fall in the Serious unemployment group, comparable to 1939 conditions.





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- THE MANPOWER PICTURE -

Current Situation and Outlook

January was a month of seasonal inactivity. All the pertinent signs, however, indicate that this was merely the lull before an outburst of industrial activity in the spring.

The number of vacant jobs reached a seasonal low during January in all industries except logging. At the beginning of the month, the inventory period, particularly in heavy industry, lasted well into the first weeks. The worst weather conditions in years curbed primary industry, construction, and transportation. Shortages and uncertainties in the supply of power hindered production in some areas. Material shortages still formed bottlenecks for many manufacturing industries. But, preparations for capacity production were scheduled in almost all plants.

The increase in total unplaced applicants was at a slower rate for each succeeding week during the month. Recorded unemployment at the beginning of February was 50,000 below the level of one year ago, although demobilization had poured more than 300,000 ex-servicemen into the labour market during the year.

February will see an upswing in manufacturing activity despite supply scarcities. The settlement of the Noranda strike marks the end of a long period of general unrest in the mining industry, and employment will henceforth increase. Construction activity will pick up towards the end of the month if weather permits, and there will be a strong demand for tradesmen. Many contractors are keeping their skilled men on the payroll in anticipation of an acute shortage in a month or so. Building materials will be in greater supply this year, and will not place so much of a brake on labour demand as formerly.

Logging employment has reached a peak which should be sustained throughout February. Bad weather in January prolonged the cutting season. Towards the end of February, employment will probably decline—but how sharp the drop will be is difficult to estimate. The pre-war trend showed a precipitous drop during February and March, but as the slim supply of manpower throughout the war made a longer cutting season necessary, the decline was more gradual. This year's trend will probably strike a mean between the two.

Many problems at all levels will have to be solved. Among the most worrying is the effect on full employment of export credit exhaustion, such as France is approaching. Another is the chronic scarcity of workers for the labour-starved primary industries. Signs of buyers' resistance to current prices are also significant. Some adjustment will be necessary—how severe it will be depends on the adaptability of prices to what consumers will pay. The inventory situation is complicated by the quantity of shoddy goods yet unsold, and by the

unbalanced state of inventories--large stocks of semi-finished goods awaiting a single missing part.

Despite these and many other obstacles, the outlook is one of optimism. With industrial peace the economy will attain a high volume of uninterrupted production which should maintain employment above that of 1946. The industrial chaos of last summer will probably not occur this year, as the frictions present in 1946 will not be so great in 1947. The greatest pressure for more strikes would be from a rising cost-of-living. But the longer the period of peace, the sooner prices will be levelling off and even falling as expanding production brings prices into line with the narrowing demand-supply gap.

### Industrial Employment

Seasonal and cyclical employment upswing continues--At the beginning of December, 1946, the volume of industrial employment in the nine leading industries of Canada maintained the uptrend which began last August. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported a total of 1,976,320 persons employed in firms with 15 or more workers. This represents an increase of 27,843 or 1.4 per cent over the number registered at the beginning of November.

Cyclical and irregular movements accounted for approximately 0.6 per cent of the increase. According to the wartime seasonal pattern, the remainder was due to seasonal variations. When compared with pre-war years, however, the upswing was contra-seasonal.

The employment index, based on the average level of 1926 as 100, rose from 181.1 at November 1, 1946, to 183.7 at December 1. This represents an increase of approximately 51 per cent over the 1939 index.

Winter lull in all regions--Evidence of the winter lull in employment was apparent in all regions at the beginning of December. The small gains which did occur were due largely to heightened activity in logging and trade. The Maritimes recorded the highest advance with 3.2 per cent while Ontario ranked second with 1.6 per cent. Quebec and British Columbia registered gains of 1.4 and 1.5 per cent respectively. As the Prairie economy is largely dependent on agriculture, which experiences a pronounced seasonal slowdown in late fall, employment in this region remained practically unchanged from the previous month.

Material shortages curb manufacturing--Although still continuing the uptrend indicated at November 1, many industries in this group were slowing down because of a lack of materials. However, firms dependent on steel and its products were gradually returning to normal. At the beginning of December, a combined working force of 1,019,726 persons was reported in manufacturing--an advance of 6,708 or 0.7 per cent over the previous month. This gain, which was contra-seasonal in comparison with both pre-war and wartime seasonal patterns, was still due to the steady return to normal in previously strikebound plants.

Normal seasonal slowdown in non-manufacturing industries--The seasonal slowdown in employment was well underway by December 1. During November, 1946, normal seasonal decreases occurred in construction, mining, transportation, and services, while logging and trade showed sharp seasonal advances. Communications showed a slight contra-seasonal rise.

Seasonal decline below normal for construction--Despite regular seasonal lay-offs, activity in the construction industry remained at a relatively high level during November. Employment fell only 3.2 per cent, approximately one quarter of the decline that would normally occur. Largely responsible for

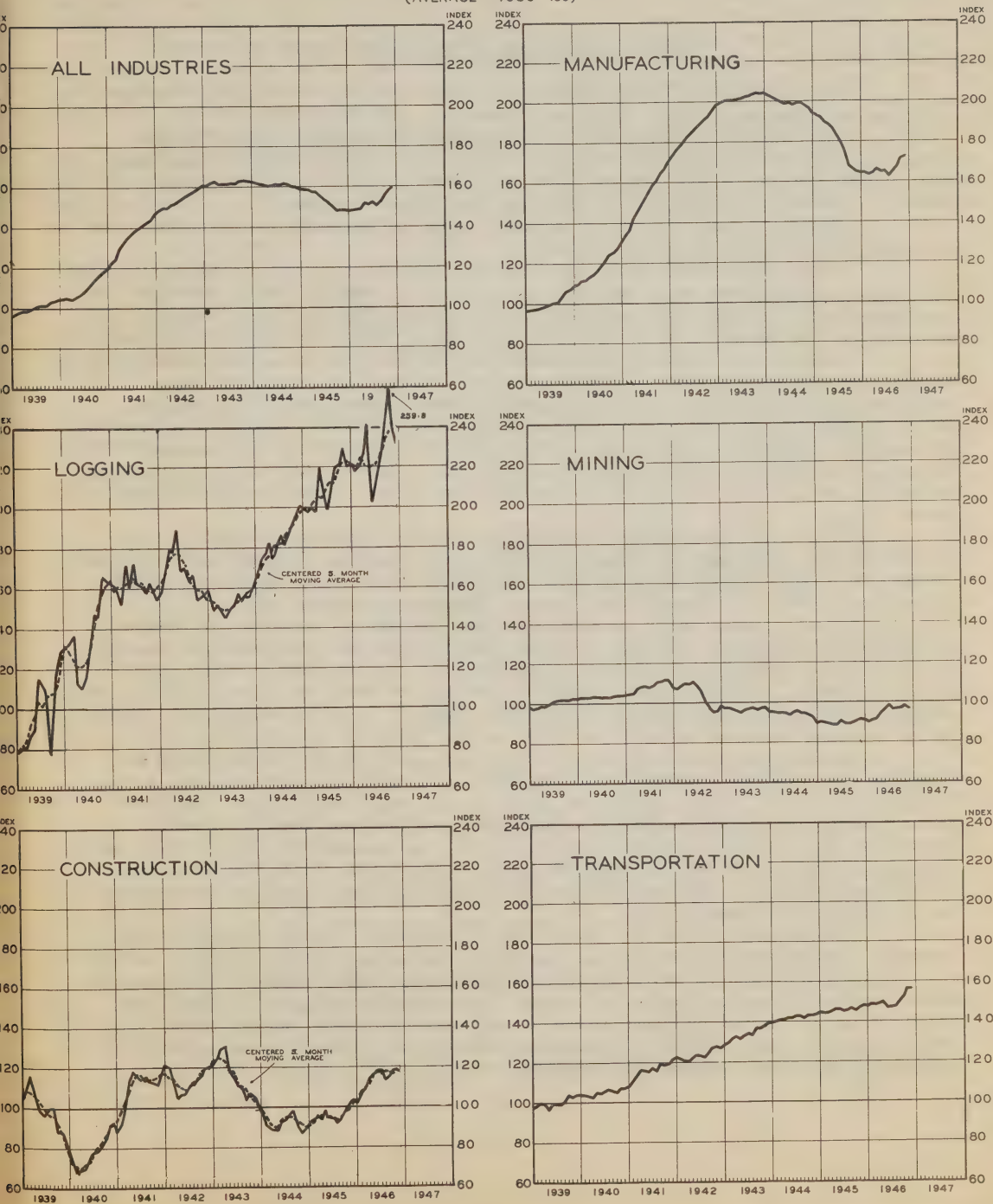


# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

## SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

### FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)



### METHOD USED TO ADJUST FOR SEASONALITY

On the basis of their periodicity, the movements of any time series can be classified as secular, cyclical, seasonal, and irregular.

For analytical purposes, it is valuable to adjust a specific time series so that the seasonal movement is eliminated. This adjustment has been made to the indices of employment shown in the charts entitled, "Employment Trends in Canadian Industry" and "Regional Employment Trends".

There are several methods whereby these adjustments can be made. The one used in this case is outlined below.

First, a 12-month moving average was computed from the original indices. This moving average was then centered by means of a 2-month moving average computed from it. This step was based on the assumption that the length of the seasonal period movement is 12 months. In general, this assumption is correct.

Second, the original employment indices were expressed as percentages of the appropriate centered 12-month average. Percentage deviations were computed rather than numerical deviations because inspection of the original series showed that since 1939 there have been very extensive cyclical movements. If numerical deviations were used as the basis for determining the seasonal pattern, this wide cyclical movement would tend to distort the pattern obtained. Percentage deviations are not distorted in this manner to nearly so great an extent.

Third, the percentage deviations were then arrayed by months. The purpose of this step was to determine whether the seasonal pattern was relatively stable or whether it was changing over the period under consideration. This inspection showed, in almost every case, a changing seasonal pattern.

Fourth, since both the amplitude and pattern of seasonality changed considerably during the war and are still changing, it was felt that the percentage deviations should be averaged, by months, for the relatively short period of three years. These average percentage deviations were then used to adjust the original indices for the middle of the three years. In other words, the 3-year moving average seasonal pattern was used as the basis of adjustment.

Fifth, the actual process of deseasonalization was accomplished by dividing the original indices by the appropriate 3-year average seasonal index. This procedure, of course, would not apply to the most recent year. In this case, a 36-month average seasonal pattern was computed and used as a basis of adjustment for the most recent 12 to 23 months. As succeeding monthly data were obtained, the 36-month average seasonal pattern was moved ahead one month, and new indices obtained. The new indices were then used as a basis of adjustment for the most recent month only.

The general procedure, then, was to compute a 3-year moving average seasonal pattern and to use this as the basis for adjusting the original series.

In the case of two industries, logging and construction, the seasonal variations were so great and so irregular that when the original indices were adjusted in the manner outlined above, a very erratic trend was obtained. In order to depict more clearly the general movement, a 5-month moving average of the seasonally adjusted indices was computed.



this abnormally high employment were the pent-up demand for construction work and favourable weather conditions which prevailed throughout the season. Nevertheless, winter conditions will soon restrict the activity of most outdoor workers.

Regardless of such accelerated activity, the limited supply of building materials and skilled labour has been interfering with production schedules across the Dominion. But in view of the demand for construction work of all types, the outlook is generally encouraging.

Uncertainty prevails in mining--The general employment picture in mining this season has been obscured by the strike in Noranda mines where a settlement has just been reached. Previous to the settlement, the resulting uncertainty led many producers to plan only conservative exploration and production until they could be assured of more stable future conditions in the industry.

At the beginning of December, an employment rise of 1.8 per cent compared favourably with the wartime seasonal increase but was contra-seasonal in comparison with pre-war years.

A shortage of labour is the major problem facing the industry. Many workers will not accept employment in the mines when other jobs are available. In many areas, lack of housing accommodation has also complicated the labour problem.

Winter affects transportation--By the beginning of December, the winter seasonal slump had set in and transportation employment remained practically at a standstill, the increase being 0.1 per cent. This slight rise was contra-seasonal in comparison with both pre-war and wartime seasonal patterns. This industry, however, has been especially busy, as shipments of grain were heavy this season.

Contra-seasonal rise in services--An employment rise of 0.9 per cent in the service industries at the beginning of December was contra-seasonal in character. The fact that many under-staffed establishments were ready to absorb service workers following the close of the tourist season made the shift less significant than in previous years.

Logging employment jumps--Employment in logging continued its seasonal expansion at the beginning of December with an increase of 14.9 per cent. This was considerably less than the gain which occurred for the same period in both wartime and pre-war years. The fact that logging got off to an early start, thus enabling the work to be spread over a longer period of time, accounted for the below-normal seasonal increase.

In all, a record cut is inevitable this year as the supply of manpower has exceeded all expectations.

Trade employment hits all-time high--The 1946 Christmas trade activity hit an all time record due to the high level of consumer purchasing power and larger supplies of retail goods. During November, 1946, trade employment advanced 5.2 per cent, a considerably greater increase than either the pre-war or the war-time seasonal advance for the same period. Trade employment should increase further in the coming year providing that high levels of income and production still prevail.

Contra-seasonal gain in communications--Although a seasonal decline would normally occur, the continuing pent-up demand for construction work in this industry caused employment to rise 0.7 per cent during November. The telephone and telegraph divisions in particular were active.

Industry analysis on basis of purpose classification--The following is an analysis of employment trends of the major components of the manufacturing industry in Canada.

During the first 11 months of 1946, reported employment in all manufacturing industries rose 8.7 per cent. For the same period in pre-war years, seasonal movements showed a downturn.

The recent monthly increases which occurred in all sectors of the manufacturing group can be attributed to the fact that manufacturing activity has been forging ahead since the termination of major strikes.

Seasonal slowdown evident in non-durables--Following a steady upswing since the beginning of 1946, amounting to 10.7 per cent employment in those industries producing consumer non-durable goods subsided seasonally between October 1 and the beginning of December. November saw a decline of 4 per cent. This was largely due to the fact that normal seasonal curtailment took place on a large scale in food processing. According to the experience of the years 1931 - 1937, the employment decline in the beverage industry was contra-seasonal. This downturn was caused by a serious shortage of glass bottles.

Employment in the industries ancillary to consumer non-durables has experienced a 12 per cent rise since January, 1946. Of this increase, only 0.7 per cent occurred during November. This slight upswing was centered in the industries primary to clothing. On the basis of the years 1930 to 1939, it was a normal seasonal development. In comparison with the seasonal indices derived from the years 1929 to 1945 for industries primary to printing and publishing the decline was normal, while on the basis of the years 1939 to 1942 the rise in containers was contra-seasonal.

With regard to the industries primary to printing and publishing, little increase in overall employment and production can be expected in the coming year. Wood supplies and labour shortages will tend to offset any general expansion. Regardless of the successful season last winter, it is essential that the pulpwood cut during the current season should exceed last year's record by at least 10 per cent if inventories are to be kept at a safe minimum.

Weather conditions, stream flow, and labour shortages cloud the 1947 horizon. The situation was stated clearly by one authority in the following quotation: "The major problem facing the industry during the coming year is not to increase its output, but to find a means of maintaining its current rate of production".

Consumer durables surge ahead--An encouraging element is the upward movement of employment in firms producing consumer durable goods. Of the 20.7 per cent increase since the beginning of the year, 8.4 per cent occurred during November. Although the recent movement was partially seasonal in character, it was due chiefly to an increase in the flow of goods following the termination of industrial tie-ups.

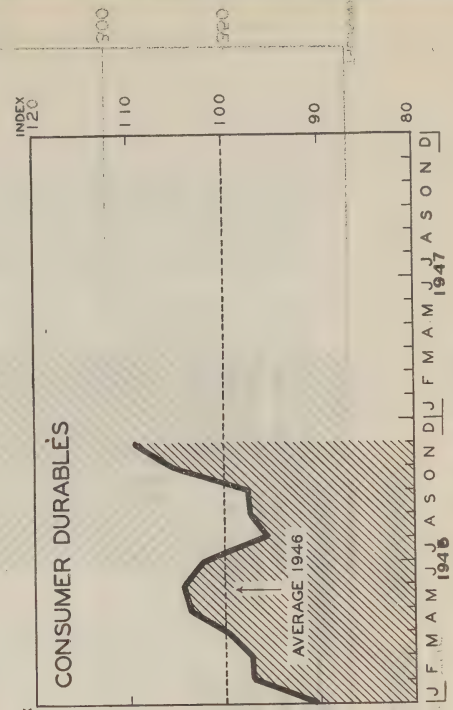
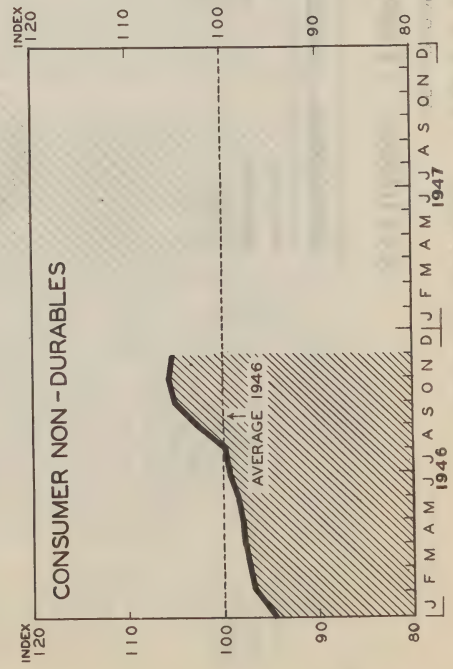
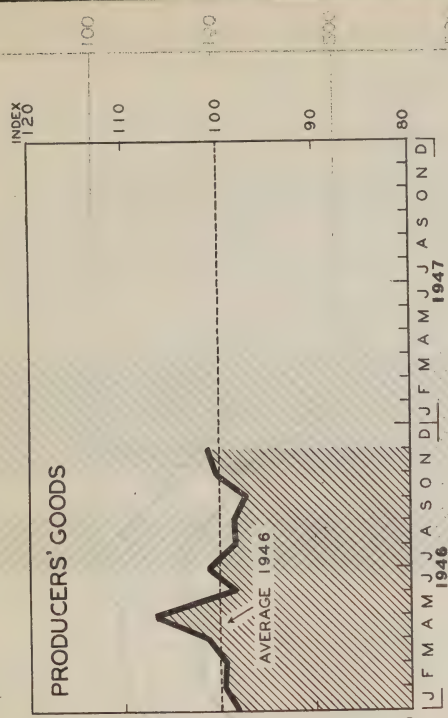
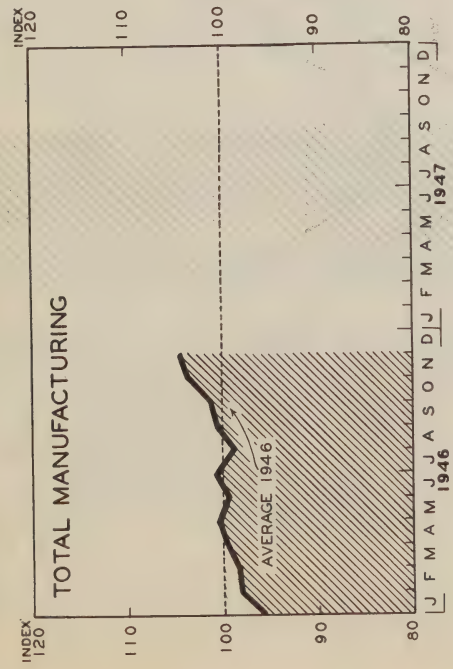
After-effects of steel strike hit producer goods industries--The after-effects of the steel strike hit steel using industries in this group. Difficulty in securing steel cut into employment expansion in the integrated steel, shipbuilding and aircraft industries. Although employment in this group has surpassed the January, 1946, level by 2.4 per cent, only a 0.5 per cent rise occurred during November. The movement should be classed as irregular rather than seasonal.



# MAJOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

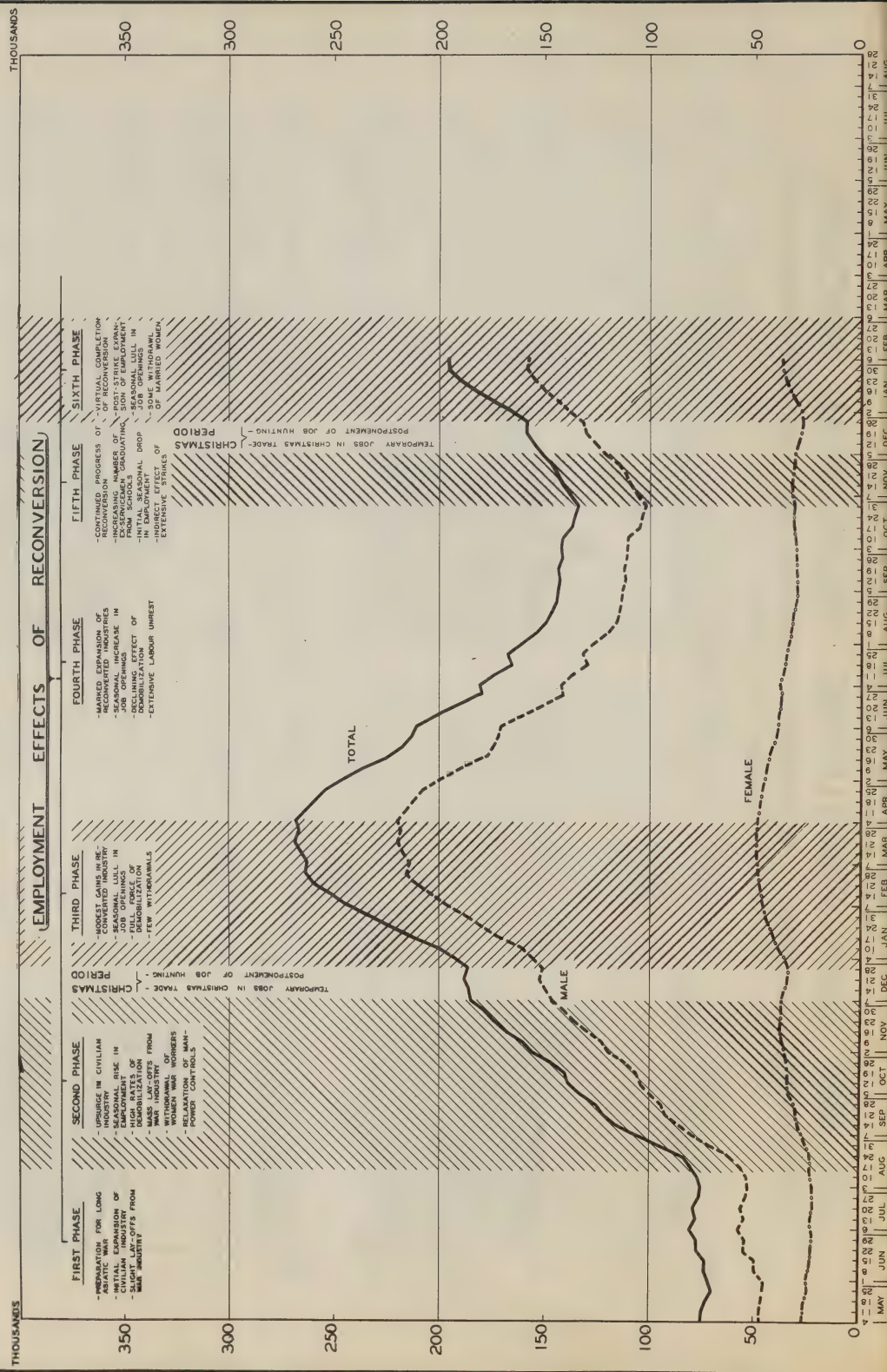
(INDUSTRIES GROUPED ACCORDING TO GENERAL USE OF PRODUCTS)

1946 — 1947



# UNPLACED APPLICANTS IN CANADA

AS REPORTED BY THE  
NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE





### Unemployment

Slowdown evident in hiring--Unplaced applicants climbed to 196,000 at January 30, 1947. This was about 37,000 fewer than the total one year ago. Further, it marks an increase over the 166,000 registered with the National Employment Service at the beginning of the month.

The upswing was a complete reversal of the downward movement which occurred during October, 1946, when the number of job seekers edged below the 135,000 mark. However, seasonal factors coupled with the effects of material shortages have stimulated the rise in unplaced applicants since then.

Rise still focused on males--Again during January, male workers comprised approximately four-fifths of the total number of unplaced applicants. At January 30, 1947, there were 158,000 male unplaced applicants as compared with 133,000 at the beginning of the month. A rise of 23,000 occurred during the previous month. Female unplaced applicants totalled 37,000 at the end of January as compared with 28,000 at January 2, 1947.

The proportion of unreferred applicants (workers registered as unplaced who have not yet been referred to jobs) to all unplaced applicants rose to 95.4 per cent at the end of January, 0.5 points more than in December and a decline of 1.6 points since the end of March, when the ratio was at its 1946 peak.

Maritime, Pacific, and Prairie regions carry unemployment load--As related to the non-agricultural labour force, the burden of unemployment is currently centered in the Maritime, Pacific and Prairie Regions. In these three regions seasonal fluctuations play a greater part in the movement of employment than in the rest of Canada. Ontario and Quebec continued to carry a somewhat lighter portion of the unemployment load (see Table II).

It should be noted that the incidence of unemployment is based upon the non-agricultural rather than on the total labour force, since unplaced applicants are largely concentrated in the urban areas. Current ratios are based upon the D.B.S. Labour Force Survey of November 9, 1946.

Fewer unfilled vacancies in January--The reporting of unfilled vacancies slackened during January. At the end of January 74,000 unfilled jobs were registered with the Employment Service. This is 16,000 below the total reported at the beginning of the month, 10,000 lower than at the same time in 1946. The decline was centered in male labour requirements where a drop of 13,000 occurred.

In most cases, the decrease in available jobs was brought about by a declining demand for seasonal workers. It also suggested postponed hiring until the flow of goods is re-established.

Unemployment claims soar--The unemployment claims load rose to 84,374 in December, an increase of 20,614 over the total for November. Of this total 67,352 were male live claims and 17,022 were female claims.

Widespread reductions in seasonal industries, year-end shut-downs in certain industries, and some after-effects of work stoppages contributed to the increased numbers claiming insurance benefits.

There were 11,139 claims disallowed in December, as compared with 9,166 during November. Claims disallowed because of loss of work due to labour disputes declined from 2,146 to 143; 4,822 were due to insufficient contributions and 2,899 were for voluntarily leaving work without just cause, both representing increases over the previous month.

Terminations of benefit payments continue upswing--The payment of unemployment insurance benefits was terminated for 58,084 workers during November, 1946, an increase of 7,684 over October. Lapsing<sup>x</sup> of benefit rights was the major cause of termination with 27,308 or 47 per cent of the workers concerned terminating benefit years in this manner. During October, 20,033 or 40 per cent of the workers were reported as lapsing benefit rights. Probably the percentage in October was lower because many workers had been able to extend their benefit years by seasonal summer employment.

Slight rise in exhausted rights--During November a total of 5,935 persons exhausted their benefit rights, 72 more than in October. This represents 10 per cent of all terminations in comparison with 11.6 per cent during the previous month. Of those whose benefit rights were exhausted, 1,698 or 29 per cent were over 60 years of age while in October the same group constituted 30 per cent. Persons between the ages of 20 and 30 accounted for the same proportion as in the previous month--24 per cent. On the basis of occupations, 27 per cent of those exhausting benefit rights were manufacturing and mechanical workers while 28 per cent were labourers.

### Payrolls and Weekly Earnings

Payrolls and weekly earnings maintain upswing--Following the upward trend in employment since September, aggregate payrolls continued to rise. The aggregate payroll index, based on June 1, 1941, as 100, rose from 154.6 at November 1 to 159.5 at December 1. The employment index on the same base rose 1.7 points. The main contributing factor was an increase in wage rates following the stoppage of strikes.

Per capita weekly earnings, therefore, showed a gain. A rise from \$33.42 at November 1 to \$34.00 at December 1 occurred. This brought weekly earnings to a higher level than for the same period in both 1944 and 1945. Wage rate increases also contributed to this rise.

### Hourly Earnings

Average hourly earnings per wage earner in manufacturing rose from 72.9 cents at November 1 to 74.5 at December 1. Higher wage rates in many industries accounted for the upturn. Higher hourly earnings occurred in the iron and steel, textile, meat products, rubber, electrical apparatus, automobile and parts and non-ferrous metal industries.

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<sup>x</sup> When a person out of work claims unemployment insurance benefit, his contributions and benefit history are examined and if they meet the minimum requirements a benefit year is established. That benefit year remains in force for 12 months unless exhausted before that time. At the end of that time, any rights, remaining to the worker's credit, lapse, and an unemployed person must apply again.



### Hours Worked

Average weekly hours worked in manufacturing rose from 42.4 hours at November 1 to 43.2 hours at the beginning of December. The increase was largely due to the fact that manufacturing industries were resuming work on a full-time basis.

### Strikes and Lockouts

The industrial front remained relatively quiet during December, 1946, with 10 strikes in existence and a time loss of 23,804 days. This meant that time loss due to strikes declined by more than 10,000 days as compared with November and by more than 237,000 days as compared with the same period in 1945. In all, only 2,256 workers were involved in strikes—a decline of 5,910 from the previous month when 18 strikes were reported to be in existence.

When December drew to a close, four significant strikes remained unsettled: gold and copper miners and smelter workers at Noranda, P.Q.; compositors etc. at Ottawa, Hamilton, Edmonton and Vancouver; fishermen in Nova Scotia and bus drivers at Chatham.

In January, two strike threats marred the industrial scene. One was the threatened strike of 12,000 Nova Scotia coal miners and the other, of 750 Toronto gas works employees. However, a 13-day truce in the Nova Scotia coal dispute and the fact that the gas works strike did not materialize have restored hopes for industrial peace. If these two strikes had materialized, Canada's coal production would have been cut in half and gas supplies would have been cut off to some 170,000 Toronto homes and factories.

Following an 11-week shutdown, the strike at Noranda mines was terminated on February 10. The miners accepted the offer of a 13-cent per hour increase but the company did not consent to a dues checkoff. When operations are resumed, employment conditions in the industry will greatly improve.

### Cost-of-Living Index

During December, the cost-of-living index, as compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, declined slightly. The index, based on 1935 to 1939 as 100, fell from 127.1 at the beginning of December to 127.0 at January 2, 1947. Mainly responsible for the drop were small seasonal declines in the prices of eggs and citrus fruits. There will likely be a rise during January.

Table I—Employment Trends by Major Industrial Groups

(Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S.)

Industry	Jan. 1, 1946	Dec. 1, 1946	Change	
			Number	Per Cent
Consumer Non-durable Finished Goods Industries.....	294,303 <sup>x</sup>	325,873	31,570	10.7
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Non-durables.....	127,055 <sup>x</sup>	142,305	15,250	12.0
Consumer Durable Finished Goods Industries.....	115,863	139,796	23,933	20.7
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Durables.....	1,328	1,511	183	13.8
Producer Goods Industries.....	377,896	387,005	9,109	2.4
Total Manufacturing.....	916,445	996,490	80,045	8.7

<sup>x</sup>Revised: Rubber transferred from Industries primary to clothing to the clothing group itself.

Table II—Unplaced Applicants as a Percentage of Non-agricultural Labour Force by Region

(Source: Labour Force Survey, D.B.S. Labour Demand and Supply, R. & S.)

Region	January 31, 1946			January 30, 1947		
	Non-agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	Per Cent	Non-agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	Per Cent
Maritimes.....	303,000	19,000	6.3	350,000	27,000	7.7
Quebec.....	1,072,000	78,000	7.3	1,124,000	49,000	4.4
Ontario.....	1,300,000	71,000	5.5	1,394,000	55,000	3.9
Prairies.....	462,000	35,000	7.6	526,000	37,000	7.0
Pacific.....	322,000	30,000	9.3	378,000	27,000	7.1
Canada.....	3,459,000	233,000	6.7	3,772,000	195,000	5.2

Table III—Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants by Occupation as at January 23, 1947

(Source: Revised Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research & Statistics Branch)

Occupational Group	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Canada.....	43,016	33,912	76,928	154,541	35,341	189,882
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service.	6,217	14,270	20,487	29,202	23,270	52,472
Skilled and Semi-skilled.....	27,920	8,273	36,193	57,325	5,528	62,853
Unskilled (a).....	8,879	11,369	20,248	68,014	6,543	74,557

(a) Includes farm hands and fishermen



# SELECTED LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

1944 — 1945 — 1946

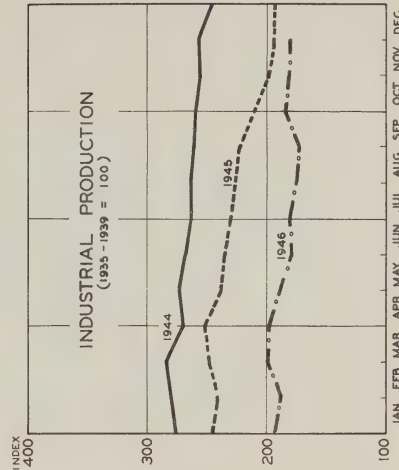
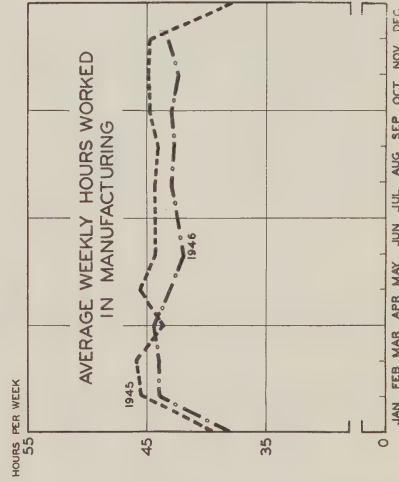
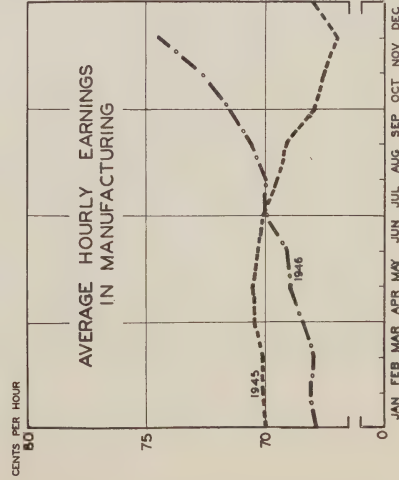
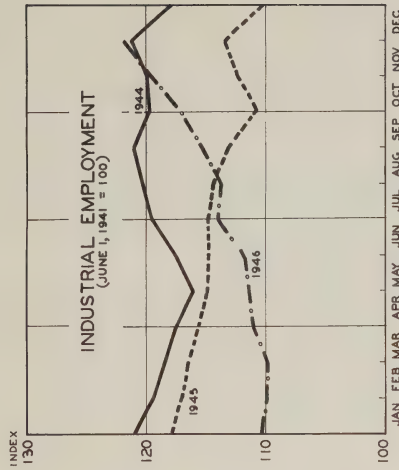
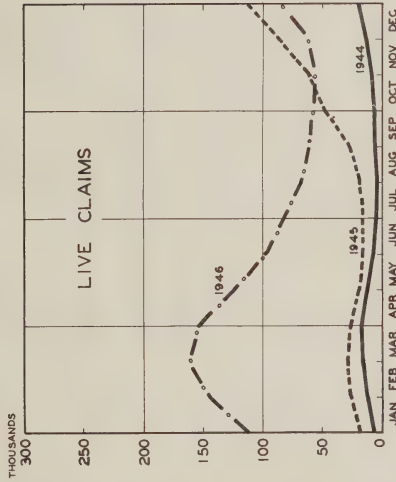
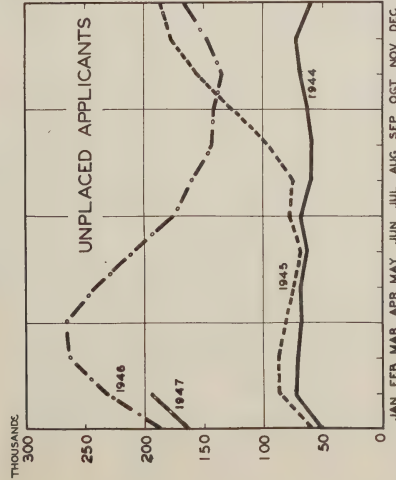






Table IV--Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note:--All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockout, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Indicators	Dec. 1939	Dec. 1940	Dec. 1941	Dec. 1942	Dec. 1943	Dec. 1944	Dec. 1945	Nov. 1946	Dec. 1946
Employment (a) -									
Index (Av. 1926 = 100)....	122.7	137.8	166.5	183.4	187.3	182.9	171.1	181.1	183.7
(June 1, 1941 = 100).. <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>110.1</td> <td>121.3</td> <td>123.9</td> <td>121.2</td> <td>113.4</td> <td>120.0</td> <td>121.7</td>	-	-	110.1	121.3	123.9	121.2	113.4	120.0	121.7
Number (thousands).....	1,320	1,483	1,791	1,973	2,015	1,968	1,844	1,948	1,976
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	443	456
Unemployment (b) -									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	72.3	179.7	134.3	146.8
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	44.0	141.7	102.7	115.1
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	28.3	38.0	31.6	31.7
Live Claims -									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	2.4	13.4	85.2	57.0	63.8
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	1.7	9.3	64.6	39.9	46.9
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	0.7	4.1	20.6	17.1	16.9
Earnings (a) -									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941 = 100).. <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>118.8</td> <td>142.8</td> <td>151.9</td> <td>151.0</td> <td>139.3</td> <td>154.6</td> <td>159.5</td>	-	-	118.8	142.8	151.9	151.0	139.3	154.6	159.5
Per capita weekly earnings.	-	-	27.40	30.08	31.61	32.20	31.73	33.42	34.00
Cost of Living (c) -									
(Av. 1935-39 = 100).....	103.8	108.0	115.8	118.8	119.3	118.5	120.1	127.1	127.1
Man-hours and hourly									
earnings (a) -									
Average hours per week.....	-	-	-	-	-	46.3	44.8	42.4	43.2
Average hourly earnings....	-	-	-	-	-	70.5	67.0	72.9	74.5
Strikes and lockouts (b) -									
Number.....	12	10	9	15	22	11	13	18	10
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	1.7	1.0	5.7	1.5	35.2	2.3	19.5	8.2	2.3
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	21.0	3.2	54.5	6.0	52.4	12.5	261.6	33.9	23.8
Industrial Production (d) -									
(Av. 1935-39 = 100).....	118.1	143.6	208.0	250.8	282.0	256.0	194.5	180.2	180.2

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.





## - OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE -

With this issue of the Canadian Labour Market, an analysis of the part played by the Employment Service in the light of changing economic conditions is presented, along with a brief historical sketch of its background and growth.

### History

Provincial or Dominion Jurisdiction--Labour jurisdiction is considered a provincial matter, under Section 92, clause 13 of the British North America Act. Consequently, the growth of a national system of employment services has hinged on the willingness of the provincial governments to vacate the field. Economic developments precipitated the issue.

Loose co-ordination during 20's and 30's--With the growth of unemployment just before World War I, a Royal Commission was formed to investigate the unemployment problem. By 1918, legislation had been passed whereby a loose co-ordination of provincial employment offices could be effected. The provinces retained their own administrative policies but adopted a common reporting system and were encouraged to open new offices. The Dominion government provided an annual subsidy of \$150,000 for all provinces signing a specified agreement. Through this agreement the Dominion government started to centralize authority by establishing an inspection system, but this gradually disappeared and provincial fields remained largely intact.

Great depression forced issue--The municipal and provincial governments were unable to cope with the serious depression of the Thirties. Consequently, the provinces finally forfeited their right-unanimously agreeing to the Unemployment Insurance Act in 1940 which included operating a system of employment offices. All provinces except Quebec have vacated the field of maintaining employment offices.

Necessity for full war production--No sooner had the employment offices been established, than they were taken over by National Selective Service to mobilize manpower for essential industries. These regulations came into effect in March, 1942. They were relaxed for women in May, 1945, and for men in the following September.

Regulations still in force require employers to report vacancies, and applicants unemployed more than one week to register at employment offices. Vacancies filled without the aid of the Employment Service also must be reported. No legal attempt has been made to force compliance with the existing regulations.

Peace-time role—The Employment Service, therefore has had only one year as a National Employment Service. During that time, it has been made directly responsible to the Minister of Labour, although remaining under the Unemployment Insurance Commission.

### General Placement Activity

Changing pattern—The industrial placement pattern has changed. The past few years have seen radical shifts in both the industrial distribution and the number placed. The 1946 placement level was slightly under one-half the peak war total and approximately 55 per cent above the pre-war level. Industrially, placements have swung over from primary industries and domestic service to industrialized manufacturing and trades.

Integration of placements into economy—Placements will necessarily be influenced by the changing volume of employment. It is, therefore, helpful to examine the growth of placements in the light of employment trends. A close relation between placements and employment trends tends to indicate the integration of the Employment Service into the economic life of the country. Placements in 1946 amounted to about 20 per cent of the gainfully employed; in 1944 about 40 per cent; in 1939—an estimated 10 per cent. A significant integration of placement activity into the economy was effected during manpower-controlled war years. During this time, marked variations in employment were also evident in the placement trend. This was not true either before or after the recent war. The gradual economic recovery in the late Thirties was not reflected in appreciable increases in placement activity (see accompanying Chart, page 16A). During 1946, placements showed a 40 per cent drop, despite steady employment gains.

Affect of labour turnover on placements—Abnormal labour turnover would obscure employment trends, as reflected in the volume of placements. The effect of an excessive number of voluntary "quits" would tend to accentuate the high-point and low-point in placements. Generally, workers are more willing to "quit" when other jobs are plentiful and hirings high; as placements drop, the rate of voluntary turnover tends to fall. Since placements tended to level off rather than fluctuate during 1946, abnormal labour turnover cannot be considered to have significantly altered the placement trend. The decisive factor has been the extent to which jobs and workers could be matched.

The effective service of employment offices varies by industry. The following is an analysis of placement activity by main industrial group. An accompanying chart gives a pictorial presentation of this material.

### Agriculture

Overall employment trend—Agricultural employment has not recovered its pre-war level. The 1931 census indicates that approximately 1,100,000 men, 14 years of age and over, were gainfully employed on farms. Recovery from the drought period brought employment up to the 1,200,000 mark in 1939.

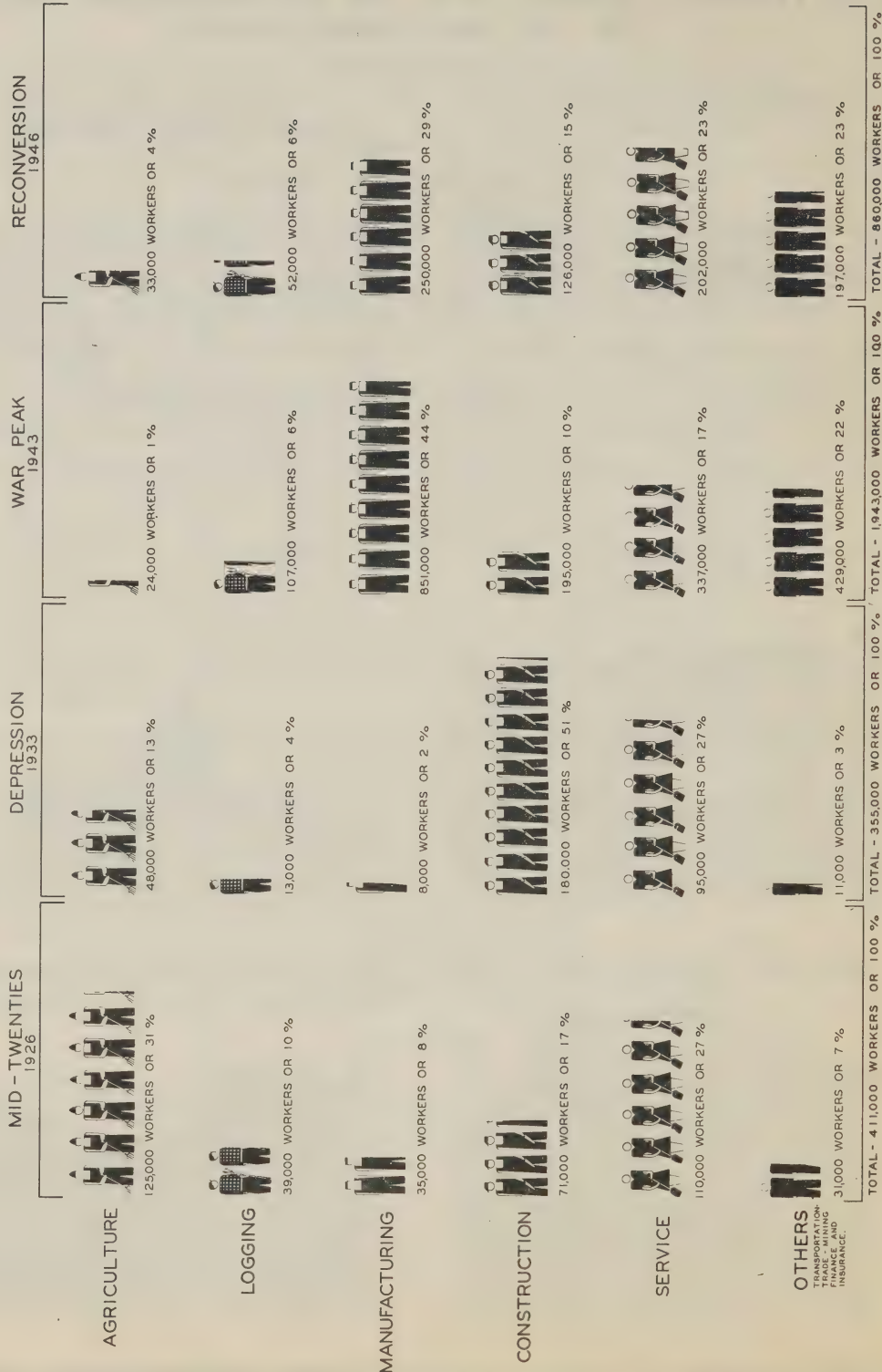
Constant migration from agriculture occurred during the next three years—employment fell back more than 200,000. Labour "freeze" orders, instituted early in 1942, eliminated any significant shifts for the remainder of the war. Estimates place current agricultural employment among men at approximately the 1941 level—slightly less than 1,000,000.





# INDUSTRIAL DISTRIBUTION OF PLACEMENTS MADE BY THE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

(EACH FIGURE REPRESENTS FIVE PER CENT OF TOTAL PLACEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD)





Throughout 1946, male agricultural employment climbed 70,000—proportionately less than the total employment gain.

Placements into agriculture—To 1946, agricultural placements fell sharply both numerically and proportionately. During the Twenties, agricultural workers placed, averaging 120,000 a year, constituted about 30 per cent of all placements; in the Thirties—55,000 or 16 per cent; during the war-regulated years—26,000 or under 2 per cent. A slight gain was reported in 1946 when placements increased to 35,000 or 4 per cent of the total.

The current reduction is largely the result of a more mechanized type of farming which requires considerably less manpower. Further, the urbanization trend coupled with the general reluctance of workers to undertake farm work tends to lessen agricultural placings, at least temporarily, while full employment exists. The fact that agriculture is not covered by unemployment insurance also limits the extent of N.E.S. activity.

Future outlook for agricultural placements—Two main fields are open. The first is that of implementing immigration schemes. Estimating demand, selecting, referring, placing, and following-up immigrants were jobs recently carried out by the Employment Service for the Polish veterans. This work has a large scope which is expected to expand greatly in the next few years.

In the second place, agriculture provides seasonal employment for part-time workers and students. This is particularly significant at present when high schools and universities report record enrolments. Opportunities for high paying temporary jobs are provided in berry and fruit picking, and tobacco and grain harvesting. Organized movements of labour in this field have been a continuously important function of the Employment Service.

### Logging

Hirings by N.E.S. limited—Competitive recruiting agencies are numerous in this field. Company recruiting campaigns and Quebec provincial employment offices are providing a considerable proportion of the manpower needs of the logging camps. These employment agencies have the advantage of a more direct contact with the farming population—the greatest potential source of labour. Many of these people have not yet realized the services offered by N.E.S. Extension of unemployment insurance should eliminate much of the overlapping in services.

During the Twenties and Thirties, yearly placements amounted to approximately 50 per cent of average employment. Under manpower controls, placements jumped to around 130 per cent. Since the relaxation of N.S.S. regulations, placements have dropped sharply. N.E.S. however, continues to be one of the major hiring agencies in the logging industry, making approximately one-quarter of reported hirings.

Advantages offered by N.E.S.—The clearance system is the cardinal advantage. The possibility of clearing orders throughout the Dominion offers a considerably wider recruiting area than is available to alternative hiring agencies. The reporting of vacancies is advantageous not only to the logging

industry but also to N.E.S. The logging industry provides the only large "cushion" for unemployment resulting from the declining summer industries.

### Manufacturing

Placement activity slight until war--Manufacturing placements were relatively insignificant until the Employment Service was set up under the Unemployment Insurance Commission. Through National Selective Service regulations, huge shifts of manpower were effected by the Employment Service to man the overnight growth of war plants. During the war, 40 per cent of all placement activity was in the manufacturing industry. At that time, manufacturing was providing employment for about one-quarter of the civilian gainfully employed.

Placements fell when controls dropped--Placements showed numerical and percentage drops in 1946. The decrease was sharper than the decline in manufacturing employment. The completion of reconversion in many industries during the latter part of 1946 was not reflected in appreciable gains in placement activity. Greatly increased union membership, and the steady growth of seniorial schedules for placing workers tend to limit the activity of N.E.S. in manufacturing. In addition, as manufacturing is less sensitive to seasonal fluctuations, resource to N.E.S. is less frequent.

Industries which meet difficulty in attracting labour utilize the services of N.E.S. more freely. Vacancy reporting in rubber and textile industries, for example, was relatively high. However, the reluctance of applicants to accept this type of work tends to lower the placement rate.

Placing handicaps--Employers are constantly urged by employment officials to open up job opportunities for handicapped personnel. The recent survey covering 467 Canadian firms indicated that the handicapped workers covered had fewer industrial accidents, less absenteeism, and a markedly lower labour turnover than the physically fit. Securing suitable jobs and following up placement activity offers considerable scope in this field.

### Construction

The past trend of construction employment (including building, highway, and railway) has shown variations which have not always coincided with the trend of placements. Overall employment dropped in the early Thirties but showed some recovery before the out-break of war. Emergency construction during the next few years forced construction employment to the highest recorded level--the peak was reached early in 1943. From that time until the end of hostilities employment gradually tapered off. Since then the urgency of providing homes for men returning from overseas has pushed the employment level upwards.

Placements, on the other hand, reached their peak in 1931 and showed a downward movement during the late Thirties. Accelerated activity was noted during the war but it fell markedly below the 1931 level. During 1946 placements have fallen numerically although proportionately they are above the 1945 level.



Sharp drop in 1946 placements--As noted, the 1946 N.E.S. recruiting level was well below that of the Thirties. However, the present level of construction employment far exceeds that of the Thirties. This seemingly incongruous situation has resulted from a shift in construction requirements from relatively unskilled labour to highly trained workmen.

The present employment level on highway and railway maintenance and construction falls short of that of the five years prior to 1930. Building construction, on the other hand, is markedly higher. Government sponsorship of highway construction to relieve the unemployment situation in 1931 and 1934 motivated placement activity for unskilled workers at employment offices. Placements totalled 288,000 during 1931--well over double the 1946 level.

In contrast, the labour market in 1946 required skilled tradesmen at a time when alternative employment opportunities were high. During the year, 15 per cent of all placements, or approximately 125,000, were made in the construction industry. Construction workers are highly unionized; consequently, much of the hiring is done through the unions. The Employment Service, therefore, deals largely with unskilled workers. Because of the present acute need of housing, unskilled help has been used when tradesmen were unobtainable. However, as the most critical needs are met and those presently apprenticing become journeymen, placement activity will probably show a sharp decline. This could be offset by an extensive program of highway construction which would require heavy commitments of manual labour.

### Services

Irregular employment trend--Service employment was a war casualty for women. Estimates of service employment are open to considerable error and therefore, the sources used have been confined to the decennial census and the sample labour force surveys. Overall service employment at June 1, 1946, totalling 772,000, topped the 1931 level, but fell short of the 1941 total by over 20,000. This trend arises out of a significant shift in the sex distribution of service employment. In 1931, women constituted 51 per cent of all employment; in 1941, they comprised 58 per cent; in 1946, the percentage fell to 45.

The volume of female service employment expanded almost 20 per cent during the Thirties to total 460,000 at 1941. A steady drain into war work occurred throughout the war. At November 11, 1945, employment was estimated to be 381,000. Withdrawal of women from the labour market caused a further contraction in 1946 and at November 9, 1946, employment had fallen to 356,000.

On the other hand, male service employment followed a markedly different pattern. At 1931, male employment was 377,000. The major exit of workers from this industry during the war had taken place by 1941 when employment had fallen to 332,000. Throughout 1946 employment steadily expanded and at November, 1946, equalled 458,000.

Placement of service workers--Service placements have always constituted approximately one-quarter of total placements. Placing domestics has always been a paramount aspect of the work of employment offices, dating back to the work of the immigration agencies. This line of placement activity has been greatly reduced during the past few years due to the abundance of "more attractive" jobs. The institution of Home-Aide projects has improved the situation.

Counterbalancing this decline in placements of "domestics" has been the steady absorption of men into service employment. Many of these men are elderly or handicapped and their placements have been effected by intensive Employer Relations work.

#### Other Industries

Until 1942, the aforementioned industries accounted for almost 95 per cent of all placements. In 1946, they constituted only 77 per cent. During the past year, 11 per cent or 98,000 workers were placed in trade, 6 per cent or 51,000 in transportation or storage industries, and 3 per cent or 27,000 workers in the mines.

Trade establishments—A shortage of qualified women applicants curbs placements in this field. One Employment Service office found that by offering applicants a short training class in sales work a better calibre of worker could be referred to employers. The low wages quoted on the employers orders are the main obstacle facing the Employment Service in attracting qualified help. A similar situation exists for clerical workers. While the present "seller's market" for women workers continues, applicants will not accept low-paying jobs. The type of applicant received depends largely upon the salary offered.

#### Casual Employment

The accompanying chart illustrates the trend of temporary or casual placements. During the Twenties, approximately one-quarter of all placements were of seven days duration or less. The importance of seasonal agricultural hirings accounted largely for this. Temporary jobs increased to more than 50 per cent of the total during the mid-Thirties. During the recovery in the late Thirties, the proportion dropped to about one-third. In the manpower regulated years, casual placements fell to 3 per cent. During reconversion in 1946, temporary hirings reported a gain—constituting 9 per cent of total placements.

The present sharp jump is attributable, to some extent, to the labour shortage situation, especially among women. Employment officers have encouraged married women to accept temporary part-time jobs to relieve the prevailing tight labour market. Further, the development of Home-Aide projects throughout the Dominion has increased casual employment.

#### Applications

Job registrants hit the 2 million mark in 1946. Of every 100 applications, 45 received jobs. This is the lowest proportion since the establishment of government co-ordinated offices. In the Twenties, three-quarters were placed; in the Thirties, one half; during the war, slightly more than two-thirds. One of the accompanying charts indicates the trend since 1919.

Until war regulated years, placements were largely dependent upon the number of jobs available. This was not so in 1946. Vacancies



and applications were almost equal. This current situation reveals that present labour demand and supply match only in a limited degree. It also indicates the immobility of labour, both geographically and occupationally. Housing shortages and lack of training facilities prolong the unbalanced market. The high level of activity obscures the existing maladjustment to a considerable extent, but this represents only a temporary postponement of the real issue.

### Vacancies

Forty-five out of every 100 employer's orders were filled during 1946. This is approximately equal to the application-to-placement ratio. In other words, fewer than one-half of the employers' and applicants' requests were met in 1946.

The past year differed sharply from pre-war years. In the Twenties approximately 85 per cent of all jobs reported were filled. In the Thirties, the percentage rose to 95. That is, placements depended almost entirely on the number of jobs available. During the war years of serious manpower shortage, the percentage dropped to 65. Since the relaxation of controls, it has continued to drop and in 1946 there were 20 per cent fewer persons placed.

But the determining factor in 1946 placements was not the number of jobs available. It was the type of work offered. Fewer than 20 out of every 100 logging orders were satisfied and in textiles only 35 per cent. However, in construction 57 per cent and in mining 56 per cent of the orders received were filled. The event of a decline in employment or extensive measures to improve the less attractive type of work would probably considerably reduce the gap between jobs reported and those filled.

The present divergence between the number of jobs offered and workers placed necessarily arises out of the increased specialization of the Service. Whereas in pre-war years, workers were largely unskilled, and little selective placing was required. The existing situation presents a vastly different picture. Employer's orders specify experienced and qualified workers. Unless such are available many employers would prefer to leave their requests unfilled. The present accent is on the quality rather than the quantity of placement activity. To this end specialized services have been instituted in several fields—executive and professional, handicapped workers, seamen, youth, women.

### Movement of Labour

An accompanying chart indicates the movement of labour as effected by the Employment Service. During the Twenties, placements hovered around 30,000. A sharp contraction was caused by the depression when transfers out fell to around 4,000. At that time there was little need for importing labour from outside areas due to the general widespread unemployment throughout the country. Under N.S.S. regulations, movement was stepped up to reach a peak of 82,000 in 1943. During 1946, transfers out dropped to 31,000.

Several factors contributed to the current decline. Whereas in pre-war years special transportation reduction fares induced clearance activity, at present transportation concessions are granted only under the remaining N.S.S. regulations. Another factor is that as full employment has existed in large portions of the country transfers have been to a great extent unnecessary. Also, large scale migration has been continuously restricted by the acute Dominion-wide scarcity of housing.



Table I--Non-agricultural Vacancies as Reported by the  
Federal Bureau of Investigation for the Year 1946  
(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Vacancies during 1946	Average Weekly Vacancies		
		Number	% Change From	
			1944	1945
All industries .....	1,718,222	34,872	-30.9	-22.3
Logging .....	276,842	5,224	-0.2	+7.5
Mining .....	47,897	904	-16.8	-22.8
Manufacturing .....	564,091	10,643	-48.3	-35.3
Food and kindred products .....	95,965	1,811	-41.9	-30.8
Textiles, apparel, etc .....	100,731	1,900	-35.5	-26.9
Lumber and finished lumber products .....	61,782	1,166	-29.2	-29.0
Pulp and paper products & printing .....	51,571	973	-24.3	-27.3
Chemicals and allied products .....	18,079	341	-67.3	-48.3
Products of petroleum and coal .....	3,831	72	-56.2	-41.0
Rubber goods .....	13,284	251	-50.0	-31.8
Leather and products .....	16,670	314	-29.4	-28.2
Stone, clay and glass products .....	17,613	332	-11.5	-18.3
Iron and steel and their products .....	47,860	903	-68.9	-54.0
Non-ferrous metals .....	23,084	436	-31.6	-26.3
Machinery .....	50,567	954	-43.5	-19.4
Transportation equipment .....	42,080	794	-76.3	-60.4
Miscellaneous .....	20,974	396	-14.5	-22.4
Construction .....	219,491	4,141	+10.5	-8.9
Transportation and storage .....	96,893	1,828	-51.0	-44.9
Other public utilities .....	24,419	461	-10.2	-5.2
Trade .....	198,140	3,738	-34.7	-24.6
Finance and insurance .....	29,035	548	-19.6	-19.7
Public and professional service .....	117,118	2,210	-15.1	-5.2
Other service .....	274,296	5,175	-21.5	-15.1

Table II--Non-agricultural Placements Made by the  
National Employment Service for the Year 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 7024)

Industry	Number of Placements During 1946	Average Weekly Placements		
		Number	% Change From	
			1944	1945
All industries.....	826,220	15,589	-51.7	-43.8
Logging.....	51,760	977	-68.1	-62.0
Mining.....	26,857	507	-23.9	-26.3
Manufacturing.....	249,862	4,714	-63.4	-52.6
Food and kindred products.....	42,687	805	-60.6	-50.6
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	34,763	656	-58.0	-48.9
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	31,905	602	-48.4	-43.4
Pulp and paper products and printing.....	22,431	423	-48.1	-46.7
Chemicals and allied products.....	8,414	159	-75.1	-62.1
Products of petroleum and coal.....	1,796	34	-69.4	-57.8
Rubber goods.....	4,736	89	-72.7	-61.3
Leather and products.....	5,316	100	-58.1	-55.0
Stone, clay and glass products.....	8,799	166	-23.8	-32.7
Iron and steel and their products.....	24,155	456	-75.1	-64.3
Non-ferrous metals.....	10,979	207	-52.2	-42.6
Machinery.....	23,054	435	-57.6	-42.6
Transportation equipment.....	22,580	426	-81.1	-67.2
Miscellaneous.....	8,247	156	-42.4	-43.2
Construction.....	125,696	2,372	- 0.9	-20.8
Transportation and storage.....	51,192	966	-60.2	-58.7
Other public utilities.....	10,181	192	-39.6	-39.2
Trade.....	98,240	1,853	-53.3	-42.8
Finance and insurance.....	10,741	203	-56.4	-50.5
Public and professional service.....	61,501	1,160	-36.2	-28.2
Other service.....	140,190	2,645	-37.7	-26.5



- ACTIVITIES OF EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL -

Discharges reached the post-V-E day low in December, and further decreases are predicted.

The number of ex-service personnel seeking work at National Employment Service offices fell 6,000. World War II applicants previously employed since discharge continue to constitute an increasing proportion of total veterans reporting.

Placements made during the period fell sharply, the percentage decrease being almost twice that of applications. Reinstatements in pre-war jobs continued to taper off.

Decreased placements coupled with a substantial backlog of unplaced applicants from November resulted in a sharp increase in the number left on file at December 31.

The occupational pattern of those unplaced at the end of the period shows an increase among construction and other summer seasonal workers and a decrease among sales clerks, service and office workers. The proportion of skilled and unskilled workers increased.

Rehabilitation aids as administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs are in strong demand.

The demand for assistance under the Re-establishment Credit and Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order continued high while benefits under the Veterans Land Act showed a tendency to fall during the month.

Education and Training

University training—Some 37,000 veterans were attending courses under the University Training scheme administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs at the end of December. Of these, 7,000 are taking pre-matriculation courses leading to university.

These figures represent those attending who are "on benefit" and not a complete coverage of veteran students. Many have either exhausted their gratuities or are saving them.

However, there is a condition whereby if a student has used his benefit and has shown himself to be an outstanding scholar, the Department will assist him in finishing his studies.

Canadian Vocational Training Schools—Training under the C.V.T. program is constantly changing. Classes are being opened at irregular intervals, governed by the demand for specific courses.

The enrolment during December was 2,491 as compared with 5,494 in November. This decline was caused by the decreased demand for pre-matriculation courses, and courses at C.V.T. centres.

At the end of the current month, 35,733 veteran students, (32,514 males and 3,219 females) were in training. Of these, 12,408 were in C.V.T. schools, 11,343 were receiving training on-the-job, and 6,034 were taking courses in private schools or through correspondence courses. This program covers 5,948 students who are finishing their pre-matriculation courses for reasons other than preparation for university.

Since the inauguration of this training 106,816 veterans have completed their courses while less than 9 per cent of those enrolled have left voluntarily or have been released before the end of the training. Through close co-operation with Employment Service offices, C.V.T. officials have placed 39,765 students in jobs upon the completion of their training.

### Discharges

Discharges drop 44 per cent—In December, 3,219 persons were released. It is expected that this level will be maintained over the next three months as the majority of servicemen still in the non-permanent army will not apply for discharge until spring when job opportunities are more plentiful.

Of the 3,219 discharged, 113 were from the Navy, 2,202 from the Army and 904 from the Air Force. The greatest monthly change was in the number released from the Navy, which fell from 1,298 in November to 113 in December.

Female discharges rose 200 to stand at 549 for the month. This was due to the release of 529 from the Womens' Division of the R.C.A.F. which was disbanded at the end of the year. The only women now in the forces are small permanent groups of nursing sisters maintained by each of the services.

### Applications for Employment at National Employment Service Offices

Applications drop 14 per cent—In December new job applications by veterans reached the 1946 low. During the current month, 39,519 ex-servicemen applied for work, compared with 45,706 in November. One year earlier there were 47,149 applicants.

Of the 39,519 persons seeking work, 16,746 or 42 per cent visited the offices during the last 15 days of the month. This is a large proportion of the total, considering that it covers the holiday season. The corresponding figures for November were 16,637 and 36 per cent.

While the overall monthly decrease in applicants was 14 per cent, males alone dropped 13 per cent and females 39 per cent.

World War II veterans, numbering 35,546, made up 90 per cent of the job seekers. Of the remainder, 3,046 served in World War I and 927 in both wars.

World War II veterans seeking employment for the first time since discharge numbered 10,302 while those having previous jobs totalled 25,244. The latter group registered only half the percentage



decrease recorded for all applicants, and constituted 64 per cent of the total. In November this group comprised 60 per cent and in October 54 per cent of the total.

A person classified as "previously employed since discharge" is not necessarily one who has received a previous appointment through the Employment Service. Any person who, upon his release from the forces, got a job on his own or was reinstated in his pre-war work, falls into this category.

### Placements

Fewer jobs—fewer placements—Scarcity of jobs prevailed during December. Demand for workers decreased in construction, manufacturing and agriculture. During the month, 15,336 ex-service-men were placed as compared with 20,219 in November. This represents a decline of 24 per cent. A 43 per cent drop took place in the number referred to specific jobs whose placement was unconfirmed.

Of the 15,336 placements made, 14,082 were World War II veterans, 954 were World War I and 300, men who had served in both wars. Only 4 per cent of those placed were women.

World War I and dual service veterans are difficult to place. The Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, a non-profit organization, is undertaking a great deal of work and publicity on behalf of older veterans. The Corps maintains a selected group of trustworthy men for whom it finds jobs. It is an employer, and not an employment agency. National Employment Service not only advises the Corps of job openings but it also acquaints employers with this valuable service.

Placements up in the handicapped group—From November 15 to December 14, 773 persons were placed, compared with 663 during the previous period. They accounted for 52 per cent of all placements made in the handicapped group, an increase of 6 per cent over that recorded one month earlier.

At December 14, disabled veterans, numbering 2,156, made up 32 per cent of the unplaced within this group. World War I veterans constituted 36 per cent of unplaced ex-servicemen, a decline of 3 per cent from that of the previous period. Of the 1,353 World War II disabled veterans left on record, 552 were applying for the first time while 801 had been previously employed since discharge.

Veteran to civilian placements—As an indication of the light labour demand in December, the applicant-to-placement ratio dropped 4 per cent. Eighteen per cent of all those making application during the month and those unplaced at the beginning of the month were placed as against 22 for November and 25 for October.

### Reinstatements

With demobilization in its final stages, and since application for reinstatement has a specified time-limit, it would appear that not a great many veterans are still eligible to apply for their pre-enlistment

jobs under authority of the Act. Reinstatements dropped from 1,727 in November to 1,038 in December. This downward trend was repeated in the number applying for reinstatement. Since August 1945, approximately 170,268 persons have been reinstated in civil employment.

### Unplaced Applicants

Sharp uptrend of unplaced applicants—At December 31 there were 53,858 jobless ex-servicemen. Only 810 of these were women. Total unplaced applicants showed an increase of 12 per cent over the November figure when 48,091 were reported. While those reporting for jobs for the first time remained constant, those classified as "revivals" rose sharply.

Discharged personnel of World War II only, comprised 85 per cent of all unplaced veterans at the end of the current month while 11 per cent served in World War I and 4 per cent in both wars.

Sixty-nine per cent of the 53,858 jobless veterans have been unplaced for more than 15 days. In November this group accounted for 65 per cent and in October, the low point for the year, 62 per cent. World War I and dual service veterans unplaced 15 days or more constituted 74 per cent of those unplaced in that classification. The corresponding percentage for World War II veterans was 68.

Unplaced ex-service personnel constituted 33 per cent of all job-seekers in December.

A 33 per cent increase in the number of claims entered for Out-of-Work Benefits, reflects the lighter labour demand. At the end of December there were 26,923 live claims while 15,121 were receiving benefits. One month earlier they were 20,651 and 14,976 respectively.

### Occupational Classification

Strong seasonal trend indicated—Not only did the available labour supply increase, but the occupational distribution shifted. This was brought about through the increased flow of workers from summer industries for whom there is no outlet at this time. The number of skilled and semi-skilled workers left on file rose to constitute 36 per cent of all unplaced veterans. This is a gain of 27 points over the number reported for November. Unskilled workers rose to 37 per cent, a gain of 9 points.

Within the skilled group the increase was largely due to influx of construction workers into the market. It was also influenced by a substantial increase in the number of specialized workmen classified as "miscellaneous", which includes help registered as truck and tractor drivers, seamen and spray painters.

To offset these increases within the skilled and unskilled groups, professional, sales and service workers dropped 7 points each, while clerical workers went down 14 points. These decreases reflect the heightened activity brought about through the Christmas trade.

While the percentages for unplaced skilled and unskilled veterans were 34 and 36 per cent respectively in November and 36 and



37 per cent in December, the civilian equivalent was 29 and 37 in November, and 33 and 39 in December.

### Future Prospects

Discharges for January and February are not expected to exceed 2,500 and 2,000. There is a possibility that these men will not try to get work until spring as they will be on leave for a month or more.

Many veterans now jobless, are being encouraged to take some type of D.V.A. training. It is being emphasized that a secondary trade is useful to fall back upon as the labour market tightens.

No major increase in job opportunities is expected until spring. Manufacturing and woods operations will be the mainstay until that time. It is hoped that many of the workers taken on during the Christmas season will be retained by the employers and trained to fill future jobs.

Table I—Discharges from Armed Forces and Applications of World War II  
Discharges by Months, December, 1945 to December, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Discharges	Applications	
		New Applicants	Revivals
December, 1945.....	38,240	24,934	16,133
January, 1946.....	56,849	27,641	18,568
February " .....	65,235	25,025	17,075
March " .....	70,646	30,400	18,271
April " .....	55,762	26,288	16,874
May " .....	38,476	25,216	19,807
June " .....	22,897	20,166	18,961
July " .....	20,259	20,346	20,807
August " .....	18,443	18,972	21,471
September " .....	11,693	16,330	21,242
October " .....	7,235	16,552	24,547
November " .....	5,787	13,912	27,338
December " .....	3,219	10,302	25,244

Table II—Live Applications and Placements of Ex-Servicemen  
With Civilian Comparison, December, 1945 to December, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B and Form U.I.C. 751B)

Month	Live Applic- ations (1)	Placements (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per cent (3)	Civilian Equivalents of (3)
December, 1945.....	93,652	26,653	28.5	21.4
January, 1946.....	98,002	19,454	19.9	15.7
February " .....	106,295	16,831	15.8	12.9
March " .....	125,474	21,228	16.9	14.7
April " .....	130,062	25,505	19.6	17.2
May " .....	130,206	28,522	21.9	19.6
June " .....	115,432	23,654	20.5	21.5
July " .....	106,429	23,776	22.3	23.6
August " .....	99,379	22,175	22.3	24.2
September " .....	90,855	20,106	22.1	26.8
October " .....	91,504	22,952	25.1	26.9
November " .....	90,560	20,219	22.3	25.0
December " .....	70,973	15,336	21.6	19.1

Table III—Unplaced Ex-servicemen and Those Unplaced 15 Days or More  
as at the End of the Month, December, 1945 to December, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Unplaced Ex-service- men (1)	Ex-servicemen Unplaced 15 Days or More (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
December 31, 1945.....	45,974	27,887	60.7
January 31, 1946.....	59,861	37,364	62.4
February 28 " .....	72,305	50,286	69.5
March 31 " .....	83,029	61,018	73.5
April 30 " .....	81,207	61,292	75.5
May 31 " .....	72,370	52,722	72.9
June 30 " .....	61,168	44,587	72.9
July 31 " .....	54,735	37,765	69.0
August 31 " .....	49,526	33,504	67.6
September 30 " .....	46,147	31,062	67.3
October 31 " .....	44,854	27,854	62.1
November 30 " .....	48,091	31,454	65.4
December 31 " .....	53,858	37,112	68.9

- EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES -

Logging  
Textiles

Metal Mining  
Heavy Machinery

The Logging Industry

Employment nearing seasonal peak—Due to seasonal activity, estimated employment in the Canadian logging industry had reached 166,000 at December 1, 1946. Actually, when farmers and other persons working on their own account are included, it is probable that some 200,000 persons have been working in the bush this winter.

Following the normal seasonal trend, employment in this industry has been skyrocketing since September. The employment peak usually occurs in December before the loggers go home for Christmas (see Table V).

Employment during 1946 averaged about 14 per cent over 1945, but production quotas have also been higher. Logging companies hope to be able to build up their stock piles this year. Normally about 20 per cent of the cut is set aside for this purpose.

Table I shows the trend of logging employment since the beginning of the war.

Table I—Estimated Employment in the Canadian Logging Industry 1939-46

(Sources: Employment Statistics Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics  
Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

Date	1939	1941	1943	1945	1946
January 1.....	73,877	135,441	123,030	153,542	166,198
April 1.....	31,395	81,529	92,518	131,271	148,686
July 1.....	46,749	74,907	72,749	90,555	96,442
October 1.....	56,708	85,356	71,620	100,661	116,996
November 1.....	101,249	107,725	89,574	135,931	139,126
December 1.....	129,309	122,785	117,830	158,546	165,924

1946-7 labour supply more adequate—As the above employment figures indicate, this season's supply of loggers has been more ample than during 1945-6. Early last fall, the combined effects of the Ontario loggers' strike, repatriation of the P.O.W.'s and increased



demand, created a temporary tight labour supply situation. By December, however, most employers reporting to the Department of Labour stated that they had enough men at that time. Local tight spots still exist in Quebec, however.

However, the rate of turnover is so high in this industry (the average logger stays in the camp for 41 days) that a large number of unfilled vacancies continue to be registered with National Employment Offices. At February 6, job openings in logging numbered 15,300, or 60,000 below the level at the same date in 1946. As can be seen in Table II most of these vacancies are in the province of Quebec. This table also reflects the steady seasonal decline in vacancies during January.

Table II—Unfilled Vacancies in the Canadian Logging Industry at February 6, 1947.

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

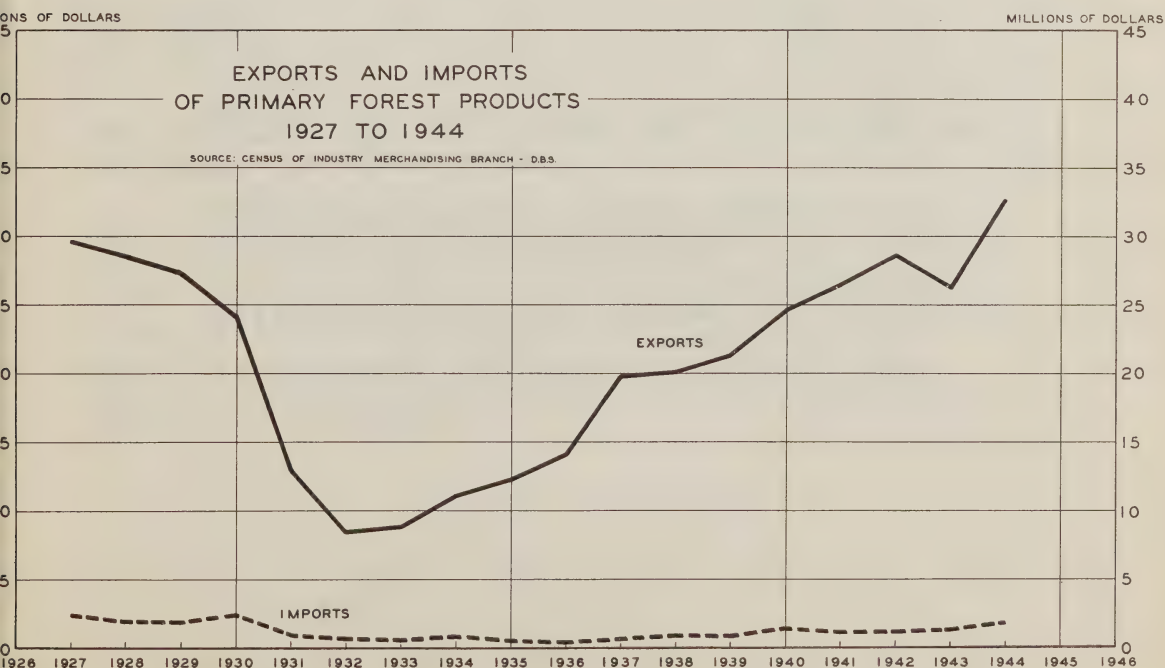
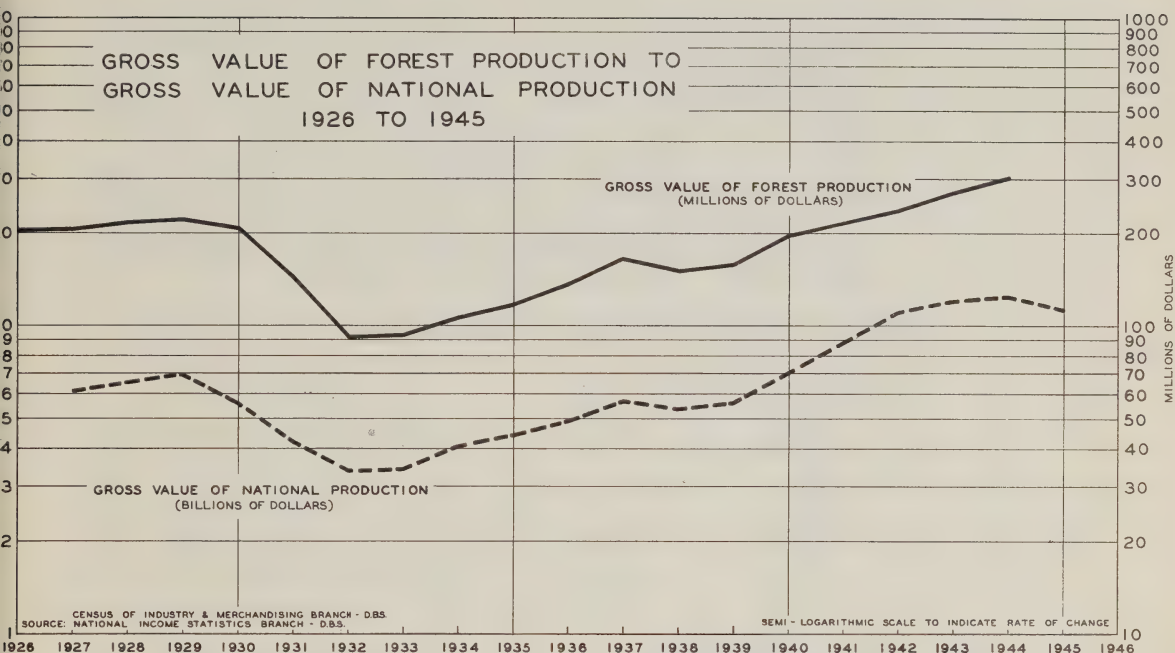
Date	Number
Feb. 7, 1946.....	21,335
Jan. 16, 1947.....	21,971
Jan. 23, 1947.....	18,568
Jan. 30, 1947.....	18,662
Feb. 6, 1947.....	
Canada.....	15,314
Maritimes.....	552
Quebec.....	9,618
Ontario.....	2,075
Prairies.....	2,750
Pacific.....	319

Cutting operations coming to a close—There are three distinct stages in eastern Canada logging operations—cutting, hauling and driving. Cutting operations were rapidly tapering off during January and the second stage, hauling, was beginning.

River driving will not begin until April. By that time over 50 per cent of the present work force will have returned to their off-season jobs.

New Ontario wage schedule—Listed below are several illustrations of new wage schedules agreed upon by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and the majority of the large logging companies in the Lake-head area following the loggers strike last fall.

# THE CANADIAN LOGGING INDUSTRY







<u>Job Classification</u>	<u>Daily Rate</u>
Cooks.....	\$6.00 - 7.75
Teamsters - less than four horses.....	6.40
" - four horses or more.....	6.65
General Labourer.....	6.20
Raftsmen, Inland Waters Logmen.....	7.00
Saw Filers.....	6.40 - 7.40
Truck drivers - hauling trains, trailers, etc..	6.40 - 7.40
" " - portaging hauling on body.....	6.00 - 7.00

A special rate may be established for aged and handicapped workers.

<u>Cutting Pulpwood</u>	<u>Rate per single cord</u>
	\$
50" Rough Spruce and Balsam.....	4.28
50" Peeled Spruce and Balsam.....	6.40
50" Rough Jackpine.....	3.75
50" Rough Poplar.....	3.00
50" Peeled Poplar.....	4.50
100" Rough Spruce and Balsam.....	3.75
100" Peeled Spruce and Balsam.....	5.75
100" Rough Jackpine.....	3.25

<u>Cutting Fuelwood</u>	<u>Rate per single split cord</u>
	\$
4 ft. Poplar.....	3.00
4 ft. Jackpine.....	3.50
4 ft. Birch and Tamarack.....	4.00

Employees do not receive board and lodging service bonus or any other payment in addition to the above rates. The charge for board and lodging was set at \$1.20 per day.

Downward plunge in employment started in February--With the exception of the B.C. camps, logging employment began to dip rapidly in February, and will gather impetus during March. By April, the industry will be almost down to its normal complement of summer workers.

Table III shows the pattern which employment can be expected to follow up to July. This employment forecast is based on data received in a sample survey of key logging firms, conducted by the Department of Labour. These firms employ over 25 per cent of total logging employment in Canada.

Table 1 II—Employment Forecast for the Canadian Logging Industry

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour)

Series	Actual		Forecast	
	October 1, 1946	December 1, 1946	April 1, 1947	July 1, 1947
Employment Index - Sample Firms (July 1, 1946=100)	118.4	176.0	91.1	80.4
Actual Employment (Whole Industry) .....	116,996	165,924	85,884	75,797

#### Seasonality in the Canadian Logging Industry

During the winter when so many industries undergo a seasonal slowdown, the logging industry is seasonally active. This is especially true in eastern Canada where farm workers inflate the logging force during the winter lull in farm work. For the most part, loggers engage in other employment during the off-season. Thus, the effect of logging on seasonal employment is probably less than in most industries.

As variations in weather conditions throughout Canada give rise to different seasons and logging methods, the seasonal indices below were computed on a regional basis. Logging carried on east of the Rocky Mountains is almost entirely seasonal, taking place during the fall and winter months. The logs are floated to the mills immediately following the spring thaw.

In British Columbia larger logs and the scarcity of streams suitable to driving operations give rise to entirely different logging methods. Here, the logs are transported to the mills or to water by means of logging railways and trucks. Less favourable weather conditions during winter normally result in a slump in lumber logging activity in these months (see Table).

Besides indicating normal seasonal employment differentiations, the indices given below reflect the changes in seasonal fluctuations resulting from the war. Under the duress of heavy demand, the amplitude of these variations narrowed considerably. In British Columbia, employment continued relatively stable throughout the whole year in the period from 1942-5. In the remaining areas, logging employment still experienced the summer dip, although this was much smaller in magnitude and shorter in duration.

Table IV—Average Seasonal Indices in Logging by Region

(Source: Research & Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

Industry and Region	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1928-1940	153.2	149.1	125.6	72.0	62.3	72.8	68.9	60.6	63.1	85.8	127.7	156.9
1941-1945	135.8	134.2	125.5	105.1	74.7	83.6	81.7	73.0	72.8	82.0	104.5	127.1
Maritimes												
(a) 1937-1940	181.4	168.2	120.0	56.4	55.7	73.4	72.6	55.2	50.5	61.3	129.1	176.2
(b) 1941-1945	146.2	149.5	132.3	103.3	65.3	79.9	97.2	64.3	54.0	69.2	98.7	140.1
Quebec												
(a) 1937-1940	167.4	153.6	103.1	57.8	33.9	52.8	56.2	54.2	59.5	98.0	165.5	197.9
(b) 1941-1945	147.7	138.5	125.6	96.7	68.1	79.4	72.4	67.8	68.5	81.1	114.7	139.5
Ontario												
(a) 1937-1940	181.7	171.0	139.5	50.8	33.2	65.1	71.0	53.1	49.0	85.0	135.2	165.4
(b) 1941-1945	133.7	141.9	134.6	113.2	70.5	80.5	79.9	73.6	73.6	82.1	98.3	118.1
Prairies												
(a) 1937-1940	202.6	237.4	240.1	125.3	60.3	36.5	29.4	24.1	19.7	17.9	59.5	147.0
(b) 1941-1945	165.5	186.9	125.2	176.4	78.4	64.3	50.1	46.0	40.8	37.3	51.3	107.7
British Columbia												
(a) 1937-1941	70.7	78.0	79.9	106.0	111.0	117.1	108.2	92.7	99.0	109.8	111.8	115.8
(b) 1942-1945	96.6	86.4	94.0	101.2	104.6	106.0	105.2	97.7	101.9	100.6	101.4	104.3

### The Primary Textile Industry

Employment now at all-time peak—Greater availability of labour enabled reported employment in the primary textile (thread, yarn and cloth) industry in 1946 to advance 5 per cent over the previous year. At December 1, an all-time high of 54,000 was reached.

A further employment increase, probably of around 4,000 workers, is forecast for the first six months of 1947.

Labour supply industry's No. 1 problem—This industry is capable of much greater expansion than is indicated in the above forecast, if it could get the workers. One employer states he could take on 6,200 more employees.

With the possible exception of logging, no other industry has been experiencing such difficulty in obtaining the labour it requires. The industry's labour demand is concentrated in the female sector and there is a general nationwide shortage of women factory workers at present. Further, the relatively low wages (\$26.62 per week



at November 1) combined with the working conditions do not attract the average job-seeker.

At January 16, there were 4,000 unfilled vacancies in this industry, according to N.E.S. reports. Over 80 per cent of these requests were for female workers.

Employment expansion by additional shifts—While expansion in existing plant facilities is being carried out by some firms, more report that they are planning to up production by operating two shifts. Several operators have stated that only by running their machines at capacity can they operate profitably.

In this connection, an official of one of the largest cotton manufacturing firms reports, "Progress is now being made in the installation of machinery that is part of our post-war development program and our present plants to institute two-shift operation will result in increased employment."

Higher proportion of women than in 1939—The percentage of women in the primary textile industry is slightly larger now than it was before the war. At December 1, 1946, 39 per cent of the total labour force was female. During the war, the figure rose from 37 per cent to a high of 45 per cent but a gradual return to normal sex distribution is in process.

This percentage is higher than that in all manufacturing, 24 per cent at December 1, 1946 but lower than that in all textiles, 55 per cent at the same date.

Rise in earnings continues—As in most industries, a steady uptrend in primary textile earnings has taken place as a result of the war. The level of earnings is low here when compared to most other industries, but it should be remembered that a high percentage (39 per cent) of the industry's work force is female.

At November 1, per capita weekly earnings (thread, yarn and cloth group) were \$26.62. In manufacturing as a whole at the same date the comparable figure was \$33.48.

Table I shows the trend of earnings since 1942. The January 1 figure is always lower than the other months of the year.

Table I—Per Capita Weekly Earnings in the Primary Textile  
(thread, yarn and cloth) Industry 1942-46

(Source: Employment Statistics Branch; Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Date	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
January 1.....	-#	19.23	21.33	22.17	22.56
April 1.....	-#	23.13	24.19	23.95	25.71
July 1.....	20.81	22.14	22.95	24.36	25.49
October 1.....	21.50	23.10	24.83	25.09	26.85

# Statistics not available for these dates.

Quiet labour situation—After an outburst of strikes during the summer months, labour relations in the primary textile industry are pursuing a much smoother course at present with no strikes in progress.

The coming year is expected to be much quieter than was 1946 as most of the agreements negotiated last year will continue in effect. It should be remembered, however, that the most active, though not the largest union in the industry is the United Textile Workers of America (TLC) which is dominated by extreme left wing elements.

A possible trouble spot is the Maritimes where several plants have been organized lately or have recently changed union affiliation. Currently, negotiations are being carried on at the Cosmos Imperial Mills at Yarmouth, N.S. by a newly certified union.

Short-term outlook promising—With no sign of diminishing demand, continued growth of the industry is expected during 1947. As noted, an employment increase of slightly less than 10 per cent has been forecast by employers in the industry up to July 1.

The coming year will probably see price adjustments to offset the squeeze resulting from domestic price ceilings and rising operating costs. More selective consumer buying policy is expected to begin to have repercussions on the primary industry. Adverse long-term factors such as the loss of export markets and a drop in the level of consumer purchasing power will not exert much influence in determining employment and production levels for at least another year.

### Metal Mining

1946 employment level above previous year—Reported employment in metal mining rose during 1946. Due mainly to labour shortages, the work force in this industry had steadily declined since 1941, but the freer labour market last year made a slight employment increase possible.

Latest figures from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show that at December 1, 1946, reported employment was at the 35,000 level. The 1941 wartime peak, before restrictions on the gold mining industry became effective, was slightly under 50,000. Pre-war employment was around 40,000.

Production down during 1946<sup>#</sup>—Production of metallic ores slumped during 1946. On a gross value basis, a ten year low of \$289.7 million was reached. The 1945 value was \$317.1 million.

Gold was again the most important single item, \$118 million value (1941-\$205 million). Nickel and copper were next in value of production, both approximately \$47 million. Recoveries of silver were down in tonnage, but due to a price increase shot up in value from \$6 million to well over \$10 million.

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<sup>#</sup> Preliminary estimates.

This lower level of activity in the mining industry was the result of the interplay of a number of economic factors. The most important of these were, 1) labour shortages, 2) higher operating costs and 3) the gap between domestic and export prices.

Labour supply becoming more adequate—The labour shortage in metal mining is gradually easing. Several operators report that they have been able to build their work force up to the required size. Screening of inefficient and chronically absent workers now is becoming possible. In general, the labour force is slowly returning to its pre-war standards.

This improvement has been assisted by the seasonal influx of agricultural workers, and the transfer of Nova Scotia miners to Ontario and Quebec centres. An improved supply situation is reported in the previously labour-starved Sudbury area. International Nickel reports a net increase of 300 men per month to its staff.

At December 26, employment offices reported 1,300 unfilled vacancies in the metal mining industry. About 950 of these openings were in the gold mining industry, and most of the remainder in nickel and copper mines.

Pockets of labour shortage still exist, however. In this connection, an official of a large Quebec gold mine reports: ".....number of employees is below requirements due to a lack of applicants. A recent increase in wages (ten cents an hour given by most Ontario and Quebec gold mines) is expected to help remedy the situation. A lack of housing accommodation in town is also responsible for a dearth of married men coming into this area."

Increase in base metal ceiling prices—The recent upward revisions in the domestic ceiling prices of base metals should afford considerable stimulation to the industry in the coming year.

During 1946, the spread between domestic and foreign prices had been steadily widening. Further, producers had to satisfy domestic requirements before they were allowed to export. It is significant that the ratio of exports to total sales in all base metals was considerably lower during 1946 than the 1935-9 average.

The new ceilings are still generally below world price levels. The comparative figures are given in Table I below.

Table I—Base Metal Prices at February 1, 1947

(All prices in cents per pound)

Metal	Canadian Price (cents per lb.)	U.S. Price (cents per lb.)	World Price (cents per lb.)
Lead.....	10.63	13.00	12.00-12.50
Electrolytic zinc....	10.25	11.50	11.75-12.00
Electrolytic copper..	16.62	20.50	20.00-21.00



Noranda strike settled—The 80-day strike at Noranda copper and gold mines was settled February 10. The 600 striking union members were granted a 13 cent an hour increase (they had asked for 16 cents) but no dues check-off was given. The full 13 cent raise will be retro-active to November 1 and 10 cents of it to May 16.

An uneasy labour situation exists in Northern Ontario. Conciliation boards have been set up to deal with disputes at Kirkland Lake and Lakeshore gold mines. The Noranda strike had been regarded by the industry as a test case on the issue of union security.

Slight employment increase forecast—Considerable expansion in employment was expected in this industry after V-J day, but for a number of reasons this hoped-for increase failed to materialize. Conditions should be more favourable for more extensive operations during 1947 but as yet reports received by the Department of Labour from key employers indicate that no major staff additions are planned for the first six months of 1947.

These operators forecast a six per cent increase in employment in this period but this estimate must be qualified by such factors as labour supply, industrial relations and price incentive. This rate of increase would provide employment for another 2,000 miners.

### The Heavy Machinery Industry<sup>1</sup>

Downward employment trend reversed—After a steady decline last fall, employment in this industry began to edge upward during November, going from 87,000 to 90,000. The 1946 high of 93,000 was reached early in the year.

Table I shows the trend employment has taken during the past year.

Table I—Employment in the Heavy Machinery Industry 1946

(Sources: Employment Statistics Branch, D.B.S., Research and Statistics Branch; Department of Labour)

Month	Employment
January, 1946.....	93,540
February " .....	91,645
March " .....	91,571
April " .....	92,713
May " .....	91,963
June " .....	91,260
July " .....	89,863
August " .....	88,184
September " .....	88,233
October " .....	87,349
November " .....	87,278
December " .....	89,810

<sup>1</sup> This industry group covers the manufacturers of producer durable machinery with the exception of agricultural implements. This includes the manufacture of such items as textile machinery, railroad cars, transformers and generators, and pulp and paper machinery.

Material shortages limit employment expansion—The major factor in causing this employment decline was shortage of materials, principally steel, on which the industry relies heavily.

Improved steel production should see this problem ironed out early in the coming year. The major steel plants now have recovered from the effects of last year's strike. December production of pig iron was the highest since March, 1945. Steel ingot production was the best since May 1946, before the strike began. Production of these two items for the last six months of 1946 is given below.

Table II—Production of Pig Iron and Steel Ingots  
June to December 1946

(Source: Census of Industry Branch D.B.S.)

Month	Pig Iron (Short Tons)	Steel Ingots (Short Tons)
June 1946.....	129,890	208,296
July " .....	64,472	130,574
August " .....	46,494	82,707
September " .....	45,078	71,363
October " .....	74,958	117,669
November " .....	135,269	216,830
December " .....	161,464	231,317

Adequate labour supply—In general, labour supply has not been a major problem in this industry. High wage rates in part offset the unattractive features of heavy factory work—the piece-work system prevalent in many plants makes a \$10-\$12 per day wage possible. Experienced workmen in the more skilled industrial trades, such as moulders, tool and die makers, and skilled lathe operators are still hard to get.

Employers have been cautious about recruitment because of irregularities in the flow of materials and components. Uncertainty about future orders has had a similar result. One official reports, "We like to see a year's work ahead for our people before hiring them."

A few firms have reported difficulty in securing highly skilled labour. A large Toronto firm in this category states, "The class of people we want are already employed and only leave because of personal reasons. We don't believe in stealing them from other companies."

Job opportunities for women in this industry are scarce, as few possess the physical strength and mechanical ability required.

Future job opportunities dependent on material deliveries—Immediate employment prospects in this industry will be geared to material deliveries. Backlog of orders, both domestic and foreign,

will keep the industry working almost at capacity over the short-term period.

Firms reporting to the Department of Labour expect to add about 5 per cent more employees to their staffs in the first quarter of 1947. In actual numbers this will mean jobs for almost 4,000 workers. Most of these openings will be located in or around the Toronto and Montreal industrial areas.

Long term outlook obscure—This industry is an essential sector of Canada's "heavy" industry which underwent enormous expansion as a result of the war. It is hoped that much of this expansion will prove to be permanent.

So far, the heavy machinery industry has been able to maintain employment at a level far in excess of 1939. But the effects of such long-term factors as loss of export markets (now 25 per cent of total production) or satisfaction of accumulated demand, are coming more and more into play. The industry is moving into a period of crisis where its ability to compete with foreign manufacturers both here and abroad, will be tested. The employment trend of the next few years will indicate the outcome of this test and the consequent future of the heavy machinery industry in Canada.





- REGIONAL ANALYSIS -

The following regional analysis deals with the current labour market situation in each of the five regions, Maritime, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie and Pacific.

Table I—Unfilled Vacancies and Unplaced Applicants  
at January 30, 1947, by Region

(Source: Advance Report on Labour Demand and Supply, R & S)

Region	Unfilled Vacancies				Unplaced Applicants			
	Male	Female	Total	Per Cent	Male	Female	Total	Per Cent
Maritime.....	2,000	1,600	3,600	4.8	23,600	3,000	26,600	13.6
Quebec.....	18,900	11,900	30,800	41.4	40,400	9,200	49,600	25.3
Ontario.....	12,200	15,400	27,600	37.2	42,800	11,900	54,700	28.0
Prairie.....	5,900	2,700	8,600	11.6	30,000	7,600	37,600	19.2
Pacific.....	2,500	1,200	3,700	5.0	21,600	5,500	27,100	13.9
Canada.....	41,500	32,800	74,300	100.0	158,400	37,200	195,600	100.0

Maritime Region

Annual unemployment up 41 per cent—Unemployment in the Maritimes at the end of January was 41 per cent above the level one year previous. From December 1945 to December, 1946 reported employment fell slightly, against an increase in the other Canadian regions.

An examination of employment trends in industry shows that there was a decrease in manufacturing employment, chiefly caused by a drop in iron and steel employment. There were also decreases in logging and transportation, which were not counterbalanced by the increases in employment in mining, construction, and trade.

Labour unrest in mining and fishing industries—Industrial disputes occupied the labour scene in January. Thirteen thousand members of the United Mine Workers went on strike at the end of the month when no agreement on a new contract had been reached. An arrangement was then made for a temporary continuation of the contract for two weeks while talks between management and union progressed.

The union first asked an increase of \$2.50 a day. Then it decreased this demand to \$1.40. The company, Dominion Coal, replied that it could not pay either increase without raising the price of its product or obtaining a federal subsidy. It offered an increase of \$1 a day conditional upon increased coal production.

Miner's strike would have far-reaching effects—Besides causing unemployment in the coal industry, the strike would tie-up most of Maritime industry. There would undoubtedly be many layoffs in manufacturing resulting from decreased supplies of power.

Deep-sea fishermen's strike continues—The strike in the fishing industry continued throughout January. The processing plants are depending on small catches from inshore fishermen, but production has been so curtailed that over 700 employees are idle.

Woods labour demand down in January—The demand for men in the woods has dropped during the month. It is reported that little further demand for labour is to be expected. Cutting will continue well into February, being later than in the other Canadian regions.

Little improvement in the labour scene is expected until spring, when it is hoped that building programs will utilize a great part of presently unemployed labour.

#### Halifax

The population of Halifax increased over 50 per cent during the war. While present economic conditions have warranted many of the newcomers remaining in this area, there is little alternative work in the event of a slump in employment.

Many workers have remained in Halifax working in local shipyards. Employment in this industry now represents 52 per cent of total reported manufacturing employment. Recent reports concerning future employment in H.M.C.S. Dockyard expressed conflicting views. The fears expressed by the Affiliated Trades and Labour Unions Council now have materialized and many men have already received notice that their services are not required.

Transportation, the life-line of this city's economy, will again be dependent on normal import-export trade when the post-war rush of shipping dwindles. Seasonal effects of the usual pre-war summer diversion of trade to St. Lawrence ports will once more be evident. At present, the tie-up of railway grain traffic going east from the lake-head is cutting down total shipping. Freight cargoes have helped considerably in supporting employment. February is expected to show a decided increase in port activity.

#### New Glasgow - Pictou

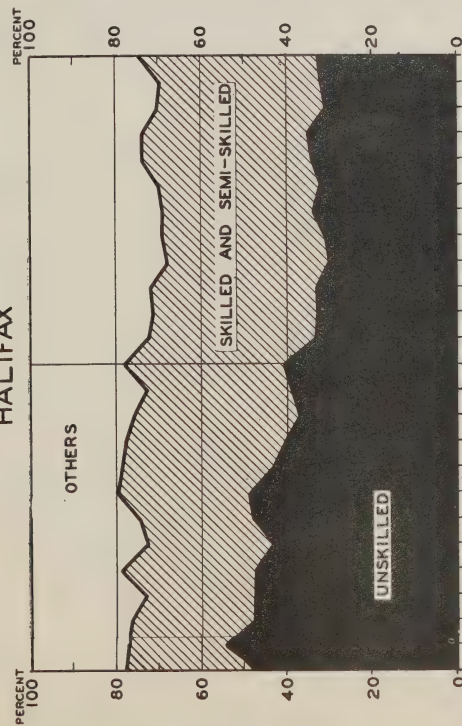
As was the case with nearly all other Maritime centres, peak unemployment was reached in April, 1945. Since December 1, 1945, with employment cut-backs in iron and steel plants, particularly in the manufacturing of rolling stock and in shipbuilding, employment in manufacturing has fallen to a level of 1,000 from the war-time peak of about 8,000.



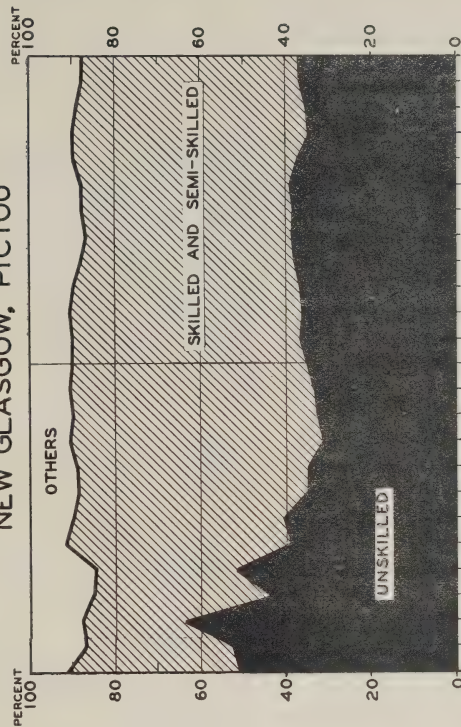
# PER CENT SKILLED AND SEMI - SKILLED, AND UNSKILLED

1945 — — — 1946

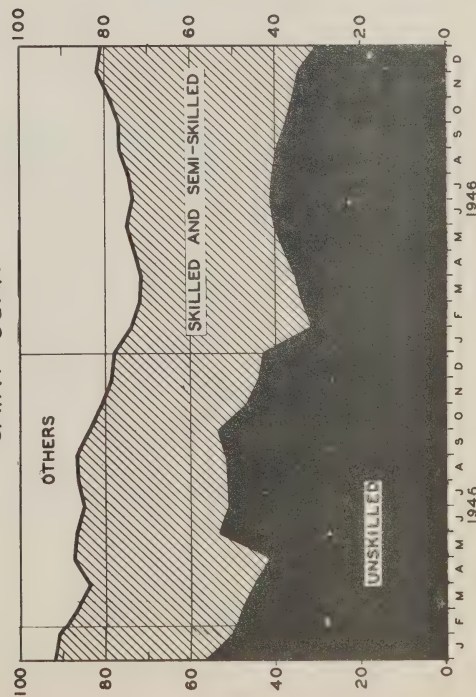
HALIFAX



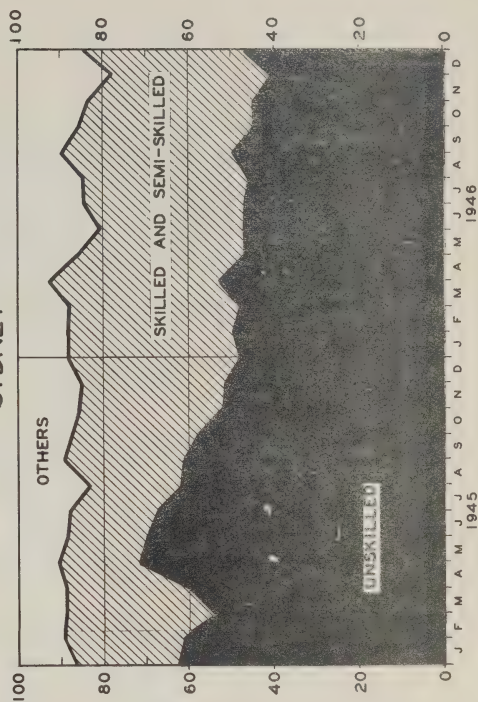
NEW GLASGOW, PICTOU



SAINT-JOHN



SYDNEY





If unemployment continues to mount during the rest of the winter, unplaced applicants will soon equal the number of workers in total reported employment.

At the moment, the seriousness of the employment situation in manufacturing is eclipsed by labour strife in coal mining. A strike, lasting for a considerable period of time, would tie-up production in the steel plants in the area.

Demand for male and female help, with the exception of orders for domestics, is low.

### Sydney

In Sydney, as in the rest of the Maritimes, reported unemployment figures are much higher than in the winter of 1945 and all indications point to increasing unemployment for the rest of this season.

Coal mining, by far the largest source of employment in this area, now is in a state of labour unrest. A strike will have serious repercussions. About 62 per cent of all reported employment is centered in mining.

Employment in the basic iron and steel industry is back to normal. Unless the coal strike ties up production, industrial demand for steel products will provide a stable source of employment for some time to come.

Construction activity will alleviate unemployment until such time as all building requirements are met. Every indication points to a large building program this year if sufficient materials can be obtained.

### Saint John

Unemployment increased about 44 per cent during 1946. During January 1947, however, unplaced applicants decreased. Indications point to an improvement with a continued busy port season.

Unplaced applicants do not decrease sharply with the opening of the winter port because most of the five or six thousand port workers come from other employment. Slumps in employment in transportation and construction are seasonally opposed, so that men laid-off from one industry have some opportunity for alternative work.

Transportation is currently very active. Future activity, however, will be governed not by the post-war boom in trade with Europe but instead by the level of activity in normal export and import trade through this port.

Shipbuilding is the weak spot in manufacturing at present. Future prospects are obscure but, generally speaking, shipbuilding in the Maritimes is on an unsteady footing. There are many applicants in the shipbuilding trades.



### Quebec Region

Unplaced applicants increased 16 per cent during January, but there has been some relaxation in the rate of increase of seasonal unemployment. In December the increase was 19 per cent.

There has been a decrease of 36 per cent in the number of applicants from the end of January, 1946 to the end of January, 1947. This may be set against an increase of about 7 per cent in reported employment in 1946.

Labour demand tapers off in logging--The logging industry's demand for men has slackened. All available experienced men are in the woods. Cutting has been prolonged by thaws during the month. There will thus be an opportunity to increase the number of board feet cut. It is expected that this will be a record season for the industry, both as to manpower and production.

Manufacturing, of all types, has felt the pinch of shortages.

The pulp and paper industry suffered from a shortage of freight cars to move the finished product. Mills were forced to reduce operations when limited storage facilities became exhausted.

Electric power cut in south-eastern townships--Inadequate supplies of electric power in the south-east townships caused temporary staff reductions in furniture and sash and door factories.

Acute steel shortage continues--The still continuing steel famine shows little sign of alleviation until late spring. Fully 50 per cent of secondary iron and steel manufacturing anticipate layoffs because of insufficient steel supplies.

Tight labour supply in textile industry--In textile manufacturing, labour is still the scarce item in production. There have been continued additions, nevertheless, to plants. The increase in production capacity, which will not show to any extent in production figures until the labour shortage is relieved, itself aggravates the labour shortage.

Construction boom anticipated--It is not only in the textile industry that large additions to plants are contemplated or are being made. Industrial construction is ready to proceed on an immense building program this spring. The economic outlook for the year is exceptionally promising.

### Chicoutimi

During 1946 employment in the aluminum industry increased from 3,700 to 4,800, an increase of 15 per cent. A prolonged strike in the Brunner-Mond plant at Amherstburg resulted in a drastic cut in the supply of soda ash, which is necessary for the production of aluminum, thus postponing expansion in the Aluminum Company of Canada plant at Arvida.

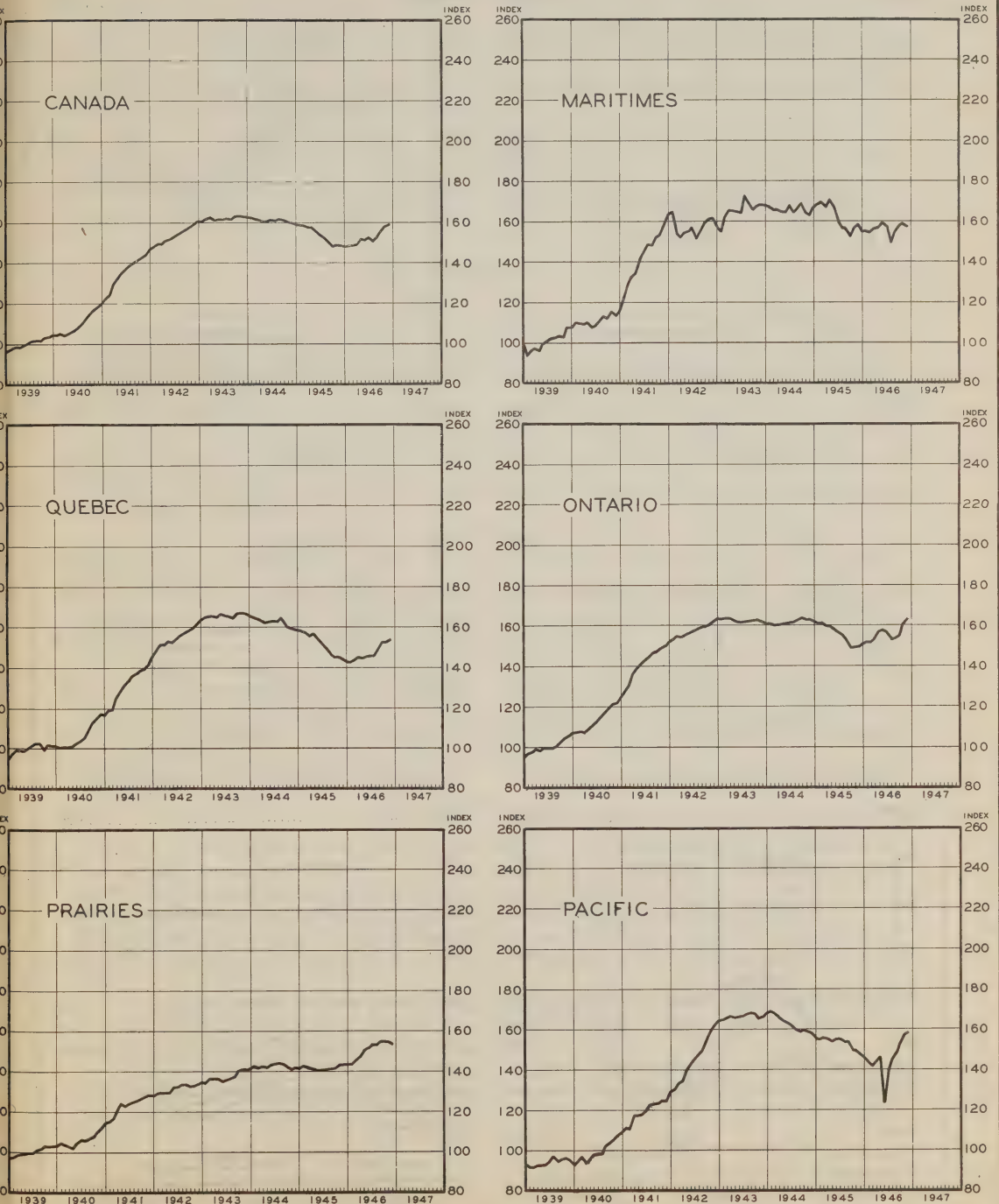
Now that material deliveries have been resumed, the company is able to go ahead with its plans to step up production.

## REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

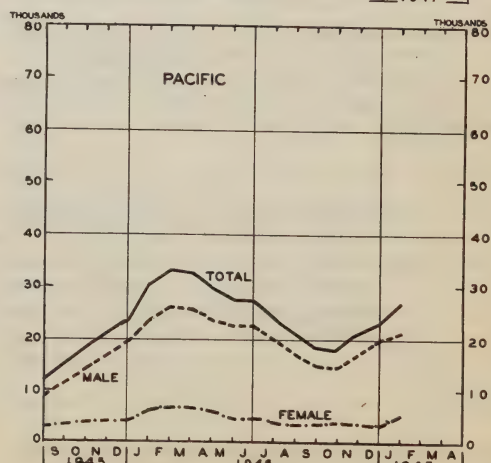
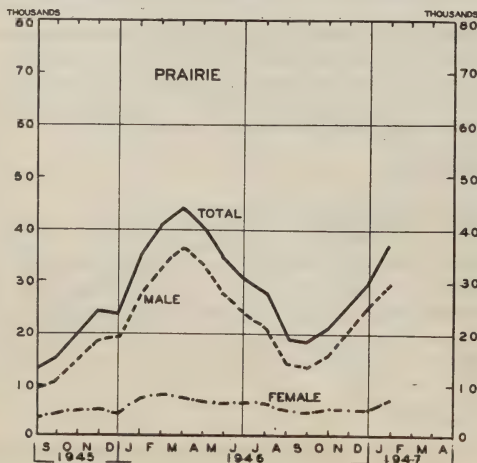
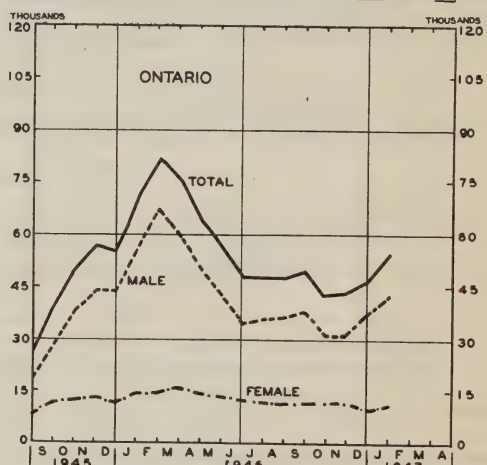
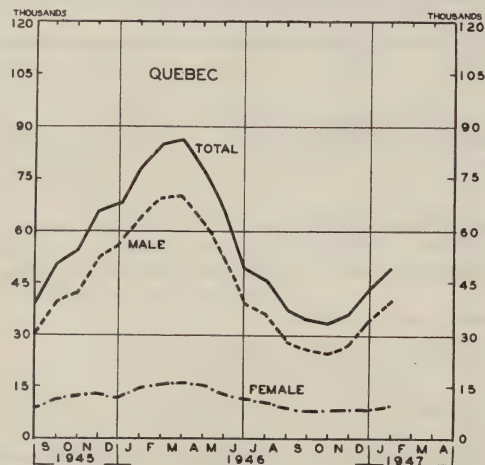
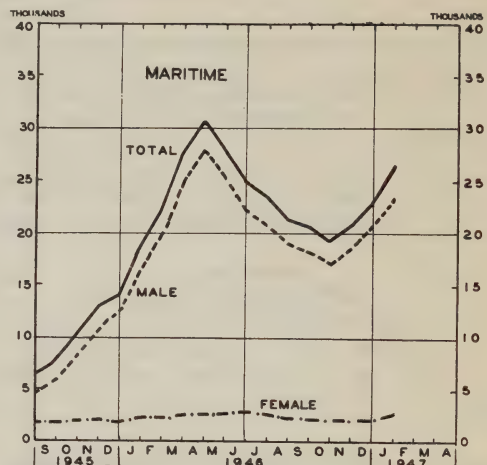
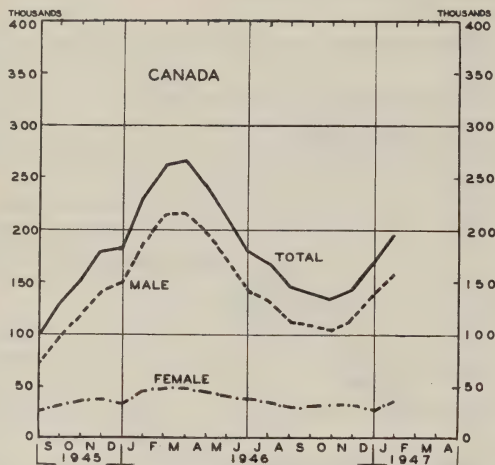
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)



## REGIONAL UNPLACED APPLICANTS

AS REPORTED BY THE  
NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



On January 2, 1947 one pot room was opened, providing jobs for 150 men. Additional pot rooms will be opened at the rate of one per month from now until June, 1947. It is expected that labour requirements will be filled locally until March, when the seasonal increase in employment may create a temporary labour shortage.

Other manufacturing plants in the area are not very active at present. Layoffs have occurred in pottery manufacturing and wood working industries during the past month.

Transportation and trade, however, continue on the upgrade, with labour requirements being filled locally.

### Montreal

Unemployment in the Montreal area is increasing, with unplaced applicants showing an increase of 20 per cent between December 1, 1946 and February 1, 1947. This is partially due to seasonal conditions but is also the result of shortages of materials stemming from industrial disputes during 1946.

Steel now is in critically short supply. Layoffs from many plants are likely to occur in the near future. The Canadian Car and Foundry Company Limited have already released more than 600 men. Few will be re-engaged before the end of April, unless there is a radical improvement in the supply situation.

Local leather goods manufacturers report an acute shortage of hides and a corresponding drop in production has been evident during the past few weeks.

Secondary textile manufacturers are extremely busy preparing for the spring season, and labour demand in this field is strong. Female textile workers are difficult to obtain. Extensive newspaper advertising for help has brought poor results.

For the most part, January is a month of seasonal inactivity. There are strong indications, however, that this lull precedes a burst of industrial activity in the spring. Any ease in material supply lines will produce a tightening in the labour supply.

### Quebec

During the past year employment in non-manufacturing industries in Quebec showed an increase of 7 per cent. The greatest percentage gains occurred in communication, transportation, retail trade and services. However, this upswing was counteracted by a decline in manufacturing. Employment in shipbuilding and munitions manufacturing declined by over 2,000. Leather and animal food products showed very slight gains during 1946.

The steady rise in unplaced applicants has been predominately a result of the seasonal slowdown in industrial activity. But various material shortages augment this increase.

Currently, all leather-using plants are suffering from a shortage of hides. The 500 workers recently released from a slipper factory have not yet been recalled.

In the textile industry little activity is reported. One large firm is planning to reduce its working hours. If plans materialize, 150 additional workers will be required.

Late spring will see a general betterment in the employment situation, but there is small hope of any present decrease in unemployment.

#### Shawinigan Falls

Unemployment is lighter than a year ago. There has been a reduction of 50 per cent from the peak unemployment of March, 1946.

The chemical industry has maintained its working force remarkably well since the end of the war. The wide diversification of products and the sustained demand for these products have been the factors promoting steadiness of employment.

Nearly two-thirds of Shawinigan Chemicals' production is being exported. A shortage of steel barrels for shipping purposes has hampered production, but at the moment a sufficient number of barrels are on hand.

The aluminum industry suffered a set-back with the end of the war. While employment is only a fraction of the peak war employment, this industry now is on a firm peace-time basis. Sound, if moderate, expansion is taking place. Orders for aluminum cables are on hand guaranteeing full production for months to come.

#### Sherbrooke

Overall reported employment in Sherbrooke increased approximately 8 per cent in 1946, and unemployment decreased by over 50 per cent. The sharp rise in the number of unplaced applicants in January is attributable, here as elsewhere in Quebec, to two causes: the winter lull in seasonal employment, and the production restrictions of material shortages.

The secondary iron and steel industry now employs some 2,000 workers. This represents a 145 per cent increase compared to September 1, 1939. This industry has started to hire labour after a quiet period lasting about three months. Supplies of steel will be the determining factor in increased employment.

The situation in the textile industry is unsettled and may deteriorate, causing additional layoffs.

Hosiery mills have reduced staffs temporarily until raw materials become more plentiful. Unless supplies arrive soon, further layoffs will result.

One of the large firms, the Patton Manufacturing Company, is expanding and modernizing its plant. This program is retarding production for the moment, but will eventually result in increased employment.

#### Three Rivers

Seasonal unemployment in Three Rivers continues to rise.

Although there are a number of openings for men in the logging industry, requirements are limited to experienced bush workers. Few of the applicants available have the required qualifications.

In the manufacturing field, employment in the pulp and paper industry compares favourably with that of a year ago. Textiles also show increased employment and accelerated production. For the most part, local foundries appear to have recovered from the effects of the strikes and employment levels are almost back to normal.

On the other hand, employment in boot and shoe manufacturing now is stationary because of an acute shortage of leather. The situation is much the same in the glove manufacturing industry where many employees are on a three to four-day week.

It is noted that as job openings become scarce, many veterans are accepting employment outside the area, procuring jobs in other cities through clearance orders.

Until construction and agriculture open up in the spring there is little hope of the employment situation improving.

#### Valleyfield

Unemployment in Valleyfield, stemming from the post-war collapse of explosives manufacturing, persists. Because of the high proportion of men employed in the war industry, there now is more unemployment among men than among women.

During the summer months, road building, construction and agriculture provided jobs for many unemployed workers. Consequently male unemployment declined. However, with the coming of winter, the number of male job seekers once again increased.

At the end of January unplaced male applicants outnumbered jobs available by five to one, whereas female job seekers and vacancies balanced numerically.

The establishment of a branch of the War Assets Corporation in Valleyfield has done much to relieve unemployment. Since August 31, 1946, 650 persons have been referred to jobs in the plant. This brings to 1,000 the number of persons working for War Assets in Valleyfield. Of these, over 50 per cent are males.

Valleyfield's major industry, textile manufacturing, offers comparatively few jobs for male workers. Thus there is little chance that enough jobs will open up for the large number of male applicants in the area.

#### Ontario Region

A continued shortage of the materials of production in the manufacturing industry together with the usual winter slackening in many of the non-manufacturing industries were the main causes of increased unemployment in January.

Overall employment situation brighter than 1946—Unplaced applicants rose 17 per cent during the month, while reported vacancies shrank 8 per cent. Nevertheless, the employment situation has improved from January, 1946. The number of applicants is down 23 per cent.

Labour demand tapers off in logging—Demand for labour in the logging industry is diminishing. Most operations have begun hauling. In pulpwood cutting the need for bushworkers is sustained because of the continued large labour turnover.



Acute shortage of skilled construction workers expected with heavy spring building program--There have been the usual seasonal layoffs of men in construction. But employment in the industry does not appear to have dropped so sharply as is usual. Contractors are endeavouring to hold their skilled tradesmen in anticipation of a heavy work program this spring, when it is feared that skilled labour will be even scarcer than in 1946.

The Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission has already begun to hire labour for work on its large power development project. Jobs will be provided for 4,000 men. Most of the labour needed in the initial stage of the work will be unskilled

Material bottlenecks continue to curb manufacturing employment expansion--Material shortages still impede employment expansion in manufacturing. Layoffs have resulted in a few cases. The iron and steel manufacturing industries are particularly affected, but woodworking plants, tanneries, electrical goods manufacturers, and certain textile companies have also reported cut-backs in activity because of the lack of the raw materials of production.

It is hoped that the next few months will see many of these shortages overcome. If such is the case, increased production from present plant together with additional production from new plant will cause sharp competition for skilled labour, which is already short in certain industrial trades (moulders, tool and die makers, pattern makers, skilled lathe operators).

Ontario's coming labour problem, it seems, will not be finding jobs for unemployed workers so much as matching job vacancies with available labour.

### Brantford

Brantford, primarily a manufacturing centre with a remarkable diversification of industry, passed through the reconversion period with comparatively little unemployment. The principal industries, secondary iron and steel and textiles, were easily converted from war to peace-time production.

Although Brantford itself, was not directly affected by the wave of industrial disputes which swept the country last summer, the resulting material shortages curtailed production in a number of industrial plants. However, in spite of these set-backs, total manufacturing employment showed a gain of 11 per cent between December 1, 1945 and December 1, 1946. Secondary iron and steel employment increased 17 per cent during the same period.

Currently, there is an approximate numerical balance between unfilled vacancies and unplaced applicants. The demand for unskilled labour has slackened considerably since many agricultural workers have taken jobs in manufacturing plants for the winter. Many larger firms are unable to take on additional unskilled help until such time as more skilled and semi-skilled workers are available.

### Hamilton

Following the national trend, Hamilton had fewer persons unemployed at the beginning of 1947 than at the same time last year.

During January, labour demand in the manufacturing field remained light, with the employment trend down. A few temporary lay-offs, caused by power shortages, occurred early in the month. It is evident, however, that the industrial disputes of the past year are still affecting employment levels, and with the increased cost of living, unrest in the ranks of labour is again showing.

Construction was at a standstill during most of the month of January, chiefly because of material shortages. Towards the end of the month, labour demand rose slightly, showing increased activity in this field.

Service workers are still in heavy demand, with few applicants registered for this type of employment. The high rate of turnover prevalent in this industry makes it difficult to meet the demand.

### Kingston

Unemployment in Kingston is relatively light. The seasonal increase in unplaced applicants has been negligible.

The past year has seen a marked expansion in textiles and aluminum manufacturing, with employment in the Canadian Industries Limited (Nylon Division) and the Aluminum Company of Canada, steadily increasing during 1946.

On the other hand, the Canadian Locomotive Company, Kingston's third major employer, has gradually cut down its staff, at present having less than 80 per cent of the number of employees who were on its payroll in January, 1945. This decline has been primarily the result of the continued shortage of steel, and, as the supply situation improves, more workers will be hired.

Production now is based on the building of 40 engines for export to France. The first of these was completed in January.

### Kitchener-Waterloo

The Kitchener-Waterloo area possesses a widely diversified pattern of industry. In nearly all cases the industries required little or no conversion to civilian production after the war. Consumer demand for tires, furniture, foodstuffs, and leather products has been high.

At the moment, hundreds of workers can be placed in jobs. One of the main reasons for the continued high level of vacancies is the acute lack of housing. It is difficult to bring workers in from outside the area to fill the jobs.

During January there was a sharp drop in vacancies for men. Much of the increase is attributable to the usual seasonal decrease in labour demand. However, shortages of basic raw materials have impeded production. Rubber, cotton, and steel are scarce. No major lay-offs have occurred, nor are any anticipated unless the supply situation worsens.

### London

Despite numerous set-backs caused by industrial disputes in basic industries, employment in the London area increased 16 per cent between December 1, 1945 and December 1, 1946. Greatest gains took place in the following industries: trade and finance (26 per cent), iron and steel (16 per cent), and food processing (13 per cent).

Throughout the past month the employment situation has deteriorated. Unemployment rose during January, although it was lower than at the same time last year. This rise in the number of unplaced applicants may be attributed to shortages of the basic materials of production, particularly steel, shortages of building materials, and the usual seasonal lay-offs.

The situation is a temporary one, however, and it is expected that near normal conditions will be prevalent by April or May.

### Niagara Falls

At no time during the past year in Niagara Falls have there been more than 55 unplaced applicants for every 1000 wage and salary workers employed. Total employment showed a steady uptrend from January 1 to October 1, 1946, then dropped sharply at November 1, when local canning factories and wineries released their seasonal workers.

Lack of steel appears to be the main drawback to increased employment in many manufacturing industries. There is little hope that the supply situation will improve before late spring. There was little hiring activity during January, but lay-offs during this period were few.

Construction work this month is at a standstill. However, when spring work begins on the projects planned for this year, local contractors will have difficulty in obtaining sufficient workers.

### Oshawa

Industry in Oshawa is gradually picking up after a prolonged period of industrial unrest and material shortages. The rise in unemployment in January may be traced mainly to seasonal factors.

For the past few months the automobile and parts industry has been operating spasmodically, with temporary lay-offs occurring because of irregular deliveries of materials. However, employment appears to be more stable of late, and it is thought that present staffs will be maintained for some months to come.

In the leather manufacturing industry, the acute shortage of hides has lessened temporarily. All employees of the Robson Leather Company have returned to work after a mass lay-off on January 3.

Duplate of Canada, Limited, manufacturers of plastic and glass products, has increased its staff and will continue to take on additional workers over a period of several months.

A new industry, secondary textile manufacturing, has made its appearance in Oshawa. Employment in three new garment factories is gradually expanding. Labour demand is chiefly for power machine operators and trainees.



### Peterborough

The current increase in the number of unplaced applicants is largely explained by the usual slump in construction work adding to the normal surplus of unskilled workers which accumulates during the winter months.

Not only has total employment in Peterborough increased in the past year, but employment in every industrial category also shows an increase.

Currently most factories have a full complement of workers for the winter months. Consequently, men who are arriving from outside points in the belief that work can be secured cannot obtain work, at least until spring. Most of the jobs vacant at present are in clearance and call for highly skilled men.

Many job openings will open up in the spring in the construction industry and in the new plants in the paper and plastics industries. There will also be a moderate increase in employment in most of manufacturing industry once material shortages cease to retard production.

### St. Catharines

A large number of workers were attracted to the labour market in St. Catharines during the summer months when the construction, agriculture, and food processing industries were very active. Throughout the fall and early winter these seasonal operations gradually lessened, coming to a virtual standstill by the end of January. As a result, unemployment has increased temporarily, although not to any serious degree.

Throughout January, production in paper, and in textiles continued at a high level, although employment expansion in the latter industry was held up by the lack of both skilled and unskilled workers.

Secondary iron and steel, particularly those phases of the industry connected with motor vehicle production, continued to be restricted by shortages of materials. Production, while considerably above pre-war level, is still below capacity.

Seasonal variations have had relatively little effect on female employment. Demand in this field remains strong. There were some 1,700 applications for work at the end of January, almost 400 more than at the end of December. Of the total applications, fewer than 600 were from women.

### Sault Ste. Marie

The general labour picture is favourable. Unemployment is lighter than at the same time last year, and unfilled vacancies are much higher.

Iron and steel manufacturing and iron mining, together the main source of employment in the area, are active. Industrial demand for steel is extremely high at the present time. Algoma Steel produces most of Canada's supply of heavy structural steel shapes.

A large number of pulpwood cutters have been placed with the Abitibi Power & Paper Company. Most of the men came from outside the area, but some of the local unemployed were placed.

Construction work proceeded haltingly during the month. There was little demand for construction workers, but this lull will be short-lived. A heavy building program will start as soon as the weather moderates.

### Sudbury

The Sudbury area is the site of the world's largest deposit of nickel-copper ore. Almost all of the nickel is sold on the export market--Canadian consumption could by no means absorb the total production. Consequently, future production and employment trends in this area are dependent on world nickel requirements.

Demand for labour has dwindled considerably during the winter but, compared to the same period last year, vacancies have doubled, and unplaced applicants are down 18 per cent.

Employment in the mines has increased markedly. The smelter is hiring men steadily because of a fairly heavy labour turnover.

While demand calls for almost 600 unskilled men, some 460 men are still registered as unemployed. Roughly 25 per cent of these men are over 45 years of age. Many of the applicants are registered for light factory labour, whereas most of the vacancies are for mining and other heavy labour.

### Toronto

The index of employment in the industries in the Toronto area stood at 187.3 at December 1, 1946 (1926=100). This was a gain of 3.3 over the November 1 figure. Greatest advances took place in communications, trade, and iron and steel manufacturing.

From the increase in the number of unplaced applicants in the skilled and unskilled metal working group during December and January, it may be assumed that the effects of strikes during the past year are making themselves felt in the iron and steel using plants in this area. Power shortages have also had a detrimental effect on production.

The textile industry is extremely active at present and there is little hope of filling the large number of orders for skilled and unskilled textile workers.

It was thought that the enforcement of the new tax regulations governing employed married women would result in a heavy withdrawal of married women from the labour market. This action would have brought about a severe labour shortage in the textile industry. However, reports indicate that the anticipated withdrawal has not taken place.

### Welland

Employment in Welland is concentrated in primary iron and steel manufacturing. This industry alone supports over 50 per cent of employment in the area. War-time expansion tripled the number of iron and steel workers. When the war ended, reconversion to civilian production necessitated temporary lay-offs, but as soon as possible the industry resumed activity. Tools and agricultural implements were its chief products and these goods had a ready post-war market.

The collapse of employment in the chemical industry, a war-time growth, accounts for most of the unemployment recorded last winter.

In December 1946, employment in iron and steel manufacturing was 28 per cent above the level of December 1945, in spite of the sharp set-back caused by the steel strike. Scarcity of steel also slashed employment in the carbon and graphite industry, which forms another major source of employment

for the area. Currently, however, production is almost back to normal. Continuance of normal production, one plant emphasizes, depends upon steady deliveries of skelp, which cannot be guaranteed, from American firms.

The peak of recorded unemployment was passed at the beginning of January, and unfilled vacancies also show a steady improvement.

A heavy construction program is planned for the summer. A severe scarcity of skilled workmen is feared, however. Such qualified men are difficult to find even now.

### Windsor

After twelve months of stop and go production in the automobile industry, unemployment at the beginning of January, 1947 was serious. Unplaced applicants totalled over 8,000, of which over half were skilled and semi-skilled metalworkers or unskilled labour.

The wave of strikes in the automobile industry together with acute shortages of materials, resulting from the war, and from industrial disputes, contributed to the present economic instability of the area.

Unplaced applicants increased during the first half of January. The number then showed a moderate decline towards the end of the month, as many large industries commenced rehiring their workers, the majority of whom had been idle since the beginning of December.

The Federal Government has taken a step to provide relief for the serious unemployment in Windsor in offering free transportation for men wishing to accept employment in other parts of Ontario.

It is estimated that only one third of the 7,500 persons now unemployed could be absorbed by local industry at peak production. If such is the case, employment outside the area would have to be found for the jobless if Windsor is to have "full employment".

### Prairie Region

Unplaced applicants increased 23 per cent from the end of December as seasonal unemployment approaches its peak. The rise has been slightly greater than the average Canadian increase. At the end of December the Prairie region supported 18 per cent of the unplaced applicants in Canada. At the end of January the region accounted for 19 per cent.

Seasonal lull in agriculture—January is a month of low labour demand in agriculture. Although farmers are beginning to inquire about labour for the coming season, it will be the end of March before any number of orders are filed with the employment offices.

Vacancies in logging show steady decline—Logging has largely achieved its full complement of labour. The number of vacancies reported have declined steadily. The great part of the present demand is for bush-workers, and is due chiefly to heavy turnover amongst this type of labour.

Harsh winter weather causes lay-offs—Extremely heavy snowfall and severe weather conditions caused lay-offs in construction, and in transportation. The bad weather was also responsible for a falling off in hog and cattle receipts. Lay-offs in the packing houses were therefore accelerated.



A temporary embargo on the shipment of bulk grains out of the Lakehead set back the grain trade. The boxcar shortage and the necessity of moving wheat from country points in Alberta to Vancouver for export shipment were the two reasons for the order. Lay-offs by grain elevator companies at Fort William and Port Arthur resulted.

Mining labour requirements for skilled workers only--Labour demand in the mining industry is largely limited to skilled men. Not until work of a developmental nature gets underway in the spring will there be any need for unskilled labour.

Outlook optimistic for 1947--Although the total number of applicants is 6 per cent higher than at the same time last year, the larger view of the employment picture is encouraging. Reported employment increased by some 7 per cent in 1946. Nineteen-forty-seven promises an equally great demand for the products of Prairie industry, and a consequent high employment.

#### Fort William and Port Arthur

The changing pattern of employment in Fort William and Port is clearly evident when one considers that manufacturing employment now is 50 per cent of total employment compared to 56 per cent at August 1, 1945, while total employment dropped only 3 per cent.

Prior to the war, most employment was of a seasonal nature and greatly dependent on grain shipments from the west. Manufacturing industry expanded under the impetus of war demand. After the war, labour expansion in the logging, pulp and paper, mining, trade, service, and construction industries compensated for the decline in manufacturing employment. Total employment has been stable in 1946.

The large increase in logging employment, to cope with the growing needs of the paper and lumber products industries has provided jobs for thousands of men this winter. This expansion of employment has helped greatly to balance the seasonal slump which occurs in marine transportation and in construction.

Experienced men can still be placed in the logging camps, although work is well advanced. However, labour demand in other industries was light in January. Iron and steel manufacturing wait for larger receipts of raw materials before increasing employment, and grain handling was less active because of the boxcar shortage.

#### Edmonton

Unfilled vacancies are fewer than at this time last year and unplaced applicants more numerous. However, overall reported employment has increased 6 per cent in the past year.

Employment in the secondary iron and steel industry climbed about 15 per cent in 1946, and the future outlook is bright. Aircraft production, while employing only 30 per cent of the July, 1943 employment, now engages a staff of some 700 men.

The high, sustained level of employment in trade and service, still by far the most important employers of labour in this city, and in food products manufacturing, the largest employer of manufacturing labour, is closely

tied up with prosperity in the primary industries, agriculture and mining. Excluding foodstuffs, other reported manufacturing at present provides jobs for some 4,000 workers only, out of a total labour force of over 20,000 workers.

The dairy products industry reports that milk shipments are about the same as last year, but that cream receipts are down. Present staffs will be maintained but additional help is not needed. Meat packing plants have started the usual seasonal lay-offs and have made several small staff reductions during the month.

The major part of labour demand in January has been from the logging industry. There have been a few orders for skilled metalworkers from the secondary iron and steel industry. But mining has called for little labour and will not do so until operations open up in the spring.

### Winnipeg

The usual seasonal slump in employment is largely responsible for the increase in the number of unplaced applicants, from 6,800 at the end of September to 12,700 at the end of January. Overall employment increased about 7 per cent in 1946 as employment cut-backs in the chemical and meat packing industries were more than offset by gains in other manufacturing industries and in non-manufacturing.

In Winnipeg the processing of agricultural products forms the major part of manufacturing industry. Employment is directly affected by the world demand for agricultural goods. Present overseas demand for food-stuffs has been the source of considerable employment expansion.

There is also a high proportion of manufacturing employment in industry not directly concerned with the processing of farm produce. Such manufacturing has the advantage of ready access to western markets, but has certain disadvantages. It cannot benefit by the economies of large scale production, nor are raw materials near at hand. In addition, the prosperity of such manufacturing depends directly on the buying power of the Prairies which in turn is directly dependent on the sale of farm produce.

Of general consequence, therefore, to employment in Winnipeg, are the prospects this year of continued high agricultural production and high demand for the goods so produced. All signs point to a continued employment gain during 1947.

### Pacific Region

Unplaced applicants up 15 per cent—Unemployment in the Pacific region increased throughout January. From the end of December to the end of January, unplaced applicants climbed more than 15 per cent. Unfilled vacancies, however, also rose over the same period, signalling renewed strength in the labour market. It will probably be March, before unemployment shows any decided drop.

The total number of applicants is 10 per cent lower than it was a year ago. In 1946 the peak of unemployment was reached at the beginning of March. This year, it seems that the peak of seasonal unemployment will be reached a month earlier.

Severe January weather curbs activity in logging and construction-- January weather conditions had an exceedingly detrimental effect on the labour market. Prolonged harsh weather interrupted employment in logging and construction, and to a lesser extent, in mining. Unemployed loggers looked for casual work. In the construction industry, although contractors kept on skilled tradesmen, unskilled labour was dismissed. The resumption of work in these industries will help to relieve unemployment. Further, the numbers returning to work should offset increased unemployment in other industries.

Manufacturing offered few opportunities to the job seeker. Wood products manufacturing showed little activity. Certain mills were threatened by log shortages resulting from the prolonged closure of many logging operations.

Shortages of basic steel and iron persist--The continuing shortages of basic steel and iron had a dampening effect on iron and steel products manufacturing. Sheet steel, structural steel, and malleable iron are scarce. Uncertainty is prevalent as to when any loosening in supplies might come.

Sluggish labour market in January--In sum, the labour market in January was exceptionally quiet. Bad weather, on the one hand, continued shortages of materials on the other, have served to bring the winter peak of unemployment somewhat earlier than last year.

#### Vancouver

Total reported employment in Vancouver increased roughly 5 per cent from December 1, 1945 to the present time. This growth was largely due to increases in employment during the year in trade, services, transportation, communication, construction, and logging. In other words, non-manufacturing as a whole was responsible for increased employment.

Manufacturing employment declined during 1946. Expanded employment in the production of foodstuffs, lumber and lumber products, secondary textiles, and, to a lesser degree, iron and steel products, cushioned the effects of the major slump in shipbuilding.

The comparative weakness of the shipbuilding industry during 1946 has been largely because of critical shortages of steel. It is probable that employment will increase once iron and steel become available in sufficient quantity. Present business indicates that the number of men engaged in shipbuilding can be maintained for two years at least.

Little change in labour demand from that which existed in December is noticeable in January. Bad weather resulted in little call for men from logging operations or sawmills. Construction work was deferred until the weather moderates. Vacancies in manufacturing were few, because of continuing scarcity of materials. It is hoped that spring will bring not only good weather, but also some alleviation of the material shortages.



## - A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS -

### A Key to the Area Tables

The area tables present statistical data on the labour market in thirty-eight selected areas. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in the area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

The areas are classified according to the seriousness of unemployment in each by means of the ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed. This ratio, as we have stated previously, is a crude measure evaluating short-term relative levels of unemployment.

The total labour force figure, including as it does, wage and salary workers, employers, self-employed, and unpaid family workers would be preferable to wage and salary workers employed as a ratio base. It would give a truer statement of the movement from employed status to unemployed status without reflecting movements not resulting in unemployment (e.g. a salary or a wage worker becoming self-employed). However, until labour force figures are available, the ratio base will be an estimate of the number of wage and salary workers employed in the area.

Unplaced applicants are workers who are seeking jobs through registration with the employment service. The figure of unplaced applicants will underestimate the number unemployed by the number of workers who seek work independently of the employment service. However, since it is probable that the unemployed will register with the local employment office when jobs are difficult to find and will find work on their own initiative, to a certain extent, without registering when jobs are plentiful, the unemployment ratio may understate unemployment slightly in good times while giving a fairly accurate picture in bad times, especially in work covered by unemployment insurance.

After we have reached a measure of the unemployment in an area we must have some idea as to the meaning of the measure. In a dynamic economy, at any one moment there will always be some workers who are not employed. Some will be changing jobs, some will have just left school and not yet found a place in the labour force, some in seasonal occupations will work only part of the year.

We can classify levels of unemployment by a comparison with past levels, and designate the labour situation in the different areas by the group rating under which they come, as follows:

Group I—Areas in which over 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "mid-thirties".

Group II--Areas in which between 150 and 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III--Areas in which 50 to 150 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV--Areas in which under 50 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Slight, that is, in general it is that which would exist under conditions of full employment according to the experience of the years 1943 and 1944.

On the other hand we may desire more information than whether unemployment in an area is acute, serious, moderate or slight. The area tables present additional material relevant to the current labour demand and supply picture.

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities insofar as employers do not report vacancies to the employment service. "Jobs available during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but should indicate the trend of labour demand in comparison with figures for previous periods.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the employment service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer to the employment service.

"Unplaced applicants", at any one date, includes "unconfirmed referrals" and "unreferred applicants". The term "unconfirmed referrals" covers those workers who are referred to jobs, but whose acceptance or rejection has not been confirmed. "Unreferred applicants" are those workers who are not, at the moment, referred to any job.

As we said above, the number of unplaced applicants will understate the number of unemployed by the number of workers who seek work independently of the employment service. It should, in comparison with figures for previous periods, indicate the trend of labour supply. Those workers seeking part time work, or who are working and also seeking subsidiary employment or a change of employment through the employment service, are not included under the term "applicants".

# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT FEBRUARY 1, 1947

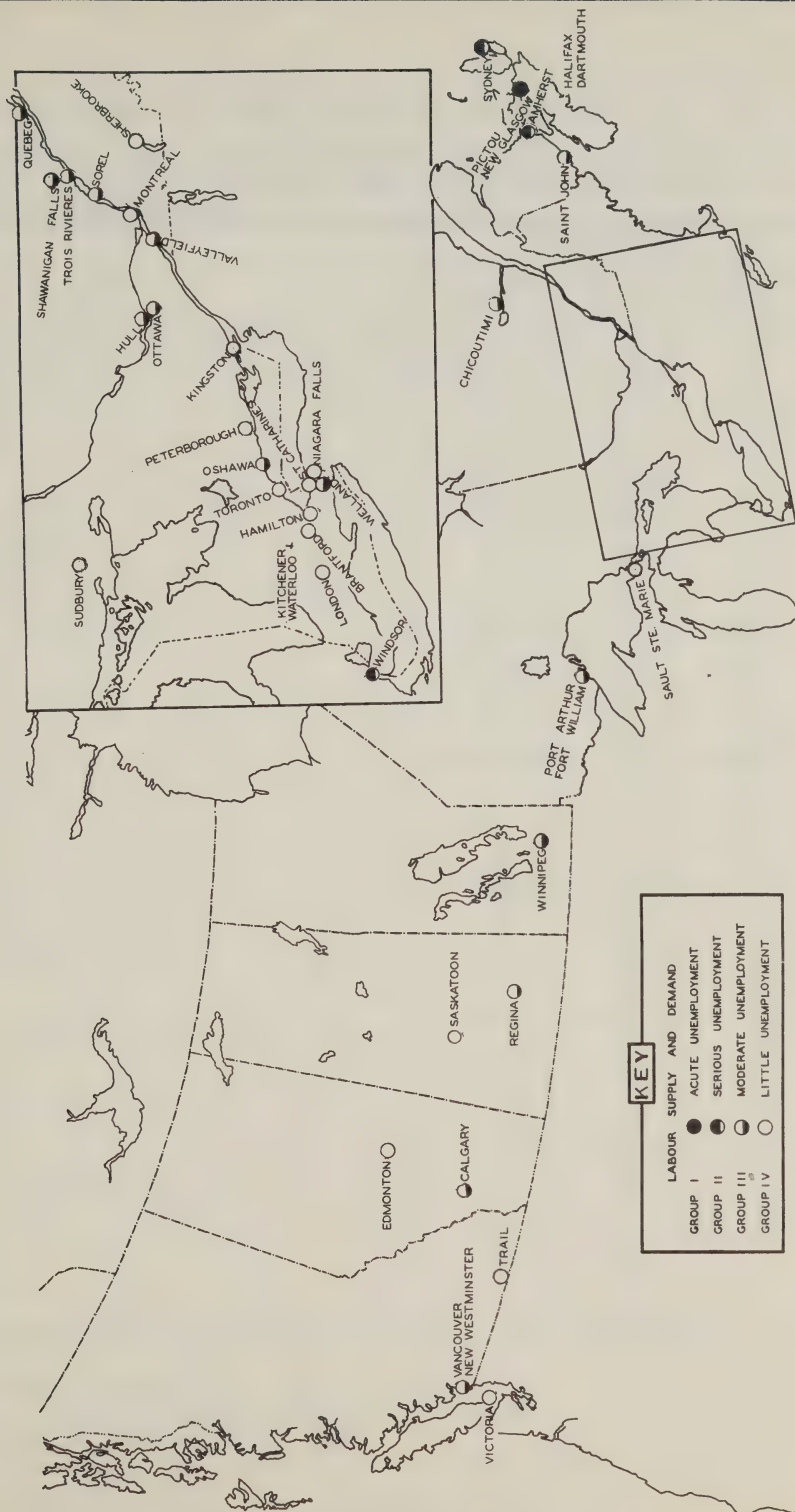






Table I—Index to Areas Analyzed in this Section

Note: The thirty-eight areas below are arranged according to seriousness of unemployment as at January 30, in descending order. Comparable ratings are also given for two previous selected dates.

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		Nov. 28, 1946	Dec. 26, 1946	Jan. 30, 1947
63	New Glasgow & Pictou .....	I	I	I
63	Sydney (a) .....	II	II	II
62	Amherst .....	III	III	II
72	Windsor .....	III	II	II
65	Quebec (b) .....	III	III	III
69	Oshawa .....	III	III	III
64	Hull .....	III	III	III
66	Three Rivers .....	III	III	III
65	Shawinigan Falls .....	III	III	III
66	Valleyfield .....	III	III	III
66	Sorel .....	III	III	III
63	Saint John .....	III	III	III
74	Vancouver (c) .....	III	III	III
71	Welland .....	III	III	III
73	Calgary (d) .....	III	III	III
67	Fort William & Port Arthur .....	III	III	III
72	Winnipeg .....	III	III	III
64	Chicoutimi .....	IV	III	III
62	Halifax .....	III	III	III
69	Ottawa .....	III	III	III
72	Regina .....	IV	III	III
74	Victoria .....	III	IV	IV
73	Saskatoon .....	IV	III	IV
73	Edmonton .....	IV	IV	IV
70	St. Catharines .....	IV	IV	IV
67	Hamilton .....	III	IV	IV
74	Trail .....	IV	IV	IV
69	Niagara Falls .....	IV	IV	IV
70	Sault Ste. Marie .....	III	IV	IV
71	Sudbury .....	IV	IV	IV
64	Montreal (e) .....	IV	IV	IV
68	Kingston .....	IV	IV	IV
68	London .....	IV	IV	IV
70	Peterborough .....	IV	IV	IV
65	Sherbrooke .....	IV	IV	IV
71	Toronto (f) .....	IV	IV	IV
67	Brantford .....	IV	IV	IV
68	Kitchener .....	IV	IV	IV

(a) Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney, Sydney Mines.

(b) Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

(c) Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

(d) Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

(e) Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Pointe-aux-Trembles, St. Paul Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

(f) Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

Item	Canada			Amherst		Halifax	
	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed) .....	(a) 67	55	56	152	160	85	66
Jobs:							32
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month .....	90,555	111,641	96,782	21	12	773	1,484
2. Vacs. notified during month .....	-	102,945	110,275	-	46	-	1,749
3. Jobs available during month .....	-	214,586	207,057	-	58	-	3,233
4. Jobs filled by referral .....	-	49,481	70,547	-	34	-	860
5. Jobs filled without referral .....	-	65,556	53,419	-	90	-	830
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month .....	74,251	90,555	80,310	56	21	791	1,012
Workers:							
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month .....	164,262	146,625	180,356	511	382	2,999	1,689
% female .....	17.2	21.6	21.1	18.8	21.7	11.0	15.3
% veterans .....	32.8	32.8	25.5	44.4	50.5	45.7	43.6
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more .....	22.6	21.5	15.5	33.1	41.4	31.8	11.5
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month .....	150,317	122,806	159,255	492	367	2,843	1,372
% under 20 years .....	10.7	11.0	-	7.9	6.4	14.6	-
% 20 - 45 " .....	60.1	60.2	-	70.7	71.4	64.7	-
% 45 - 60 " .....	19.5	18.0	-	16.5	17.2	15.3	-
% over 60 " .....	9.7	10.8	-	4.9	5.0	5.4	-
2. Applicants registered during month .....	-	126,063	166,070	-	258	-	1,774
3. Total workers available in month .....	-	272,688	346,426	-	640	-	3,463
% referred .....	-	26.8	25.2	-	11.1	-	36.5
4. Unplaced apps., end of month .....	195,594	164,262	183,821	486	511	3,847	1,549
Employment:	(a)						
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month .....	2,925	2,957	2,806	-	3,200	-	47,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " .....	-	33.94	31.63	-	-	-	28.80
Construction:							
Value of building permits (000's) .....	-	23,389	15,321	-	1	-	80

Note: --Figures for Canada re wage and salary workers are in thousands. (a) Please see page

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	New Glasgow and Pictou			Sydney			Saint John		
	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed) .....	398	386	210	267	234	113	80	82	52
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month .....	61	28	139	175	229	699	655	556	648
2. Vacs. notified during month .....	-	467	517	-	489	848	-	1,018	1,632
3. Jobs available during month .....	-	495	656	-	718	1,547	-	1,574	2,280
4. Jobs filled by referral .....	-	401	509	-	451	663	-	647	1,186
5. Jobs filled without referral .....	-	81	9	-	109	26	-	422	371
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month .....	68	61	75	154	175	502	473	655	706
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month .....	2,661	2,435	1,675	4,560	4,071	1,938	2,251	2,509	1,637
% female .....	5.0	6.8	14.7	9.3	10.3	19.5	7.9	8.4	16.6
% veterans .....	50.2	50.4	20.1	52.8	52.9	41.5	47.9	48.3	47.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more ..	44.9	46.7	12.6	48.4	46.6	24.7	34.7	37.3	22.1
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.	2,614	2,411	1,649	4,503	4,035	1,855	2,193	2,422	1,262
% under 20 years .....	4.6	5.5	-	13.6	14.4	-	14.7	15.1	-
% 20 - 45 .....	74.5	72.6	-	72.1	72.5	-	63.1	65.0	-
% 45 - 60 .....	13.4	13.7	-	9.6	8.3	-	15.4	14.0	-
% over 60 .....	7.5	8.2	-	4.7	4.8	-	6.8	5.9	-
2. Applicants registered during month .....	-	887	875	-	1,462	1,327	-	1,302	1,725
3. Total workers available in month .....	-	3,322	2,550	-	5,533	3,265	-	3,811	3,362
% referred .....	-	17.9	20.9	-	10.2	20.9	-	22.9	42.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month .....	2,747	2,661	1,808	5,210	4,560	2,219	2,212	2,251	1,556
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	6,900	8,600	-	19,500	19,680	-	27,400	26,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.67	28.29
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's) .....	-	-	11	-	101	50	-	18	26

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed) .....									
Jobs:	65	67	452	138	124	66	33	30	67
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	724	1,147	3,611	366	437	608	15,224	18,442	13,121
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	162	2,552	-	186	542	-	8,285	9,508
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	1,309	6,163	-	623	1,150	-	26,727	22,629
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	89	379	-	109	431	-	4,030	2,851
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	892	892	-	270	565	-	11,110	12,100
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	2,166	724	2,868	520	366	537	13,457	15,224	12,477
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	468	344	2,175	1,418	1,244	702	14,667	12,666	32,832
% female.....	22.2	45.6	12.0	24.1	28.5	9.1	12.3	16.2	15.4
% veterans.....	8.1	6.1	7.1	25.0	31.7	27.8	18.4	19.4	16.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	4.5	4.4	3.3	22.9	28.9	8.1	8.9	10.4	8.2
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month..	420	320	2,094	1,325	1,153	555	13,948	11,561	30,405
% under 20 years.....	13.1	16.2	-	12.8	13.5	-	7.5	7.3	-
% 20 - 45 "	58.8	67.8	-	63.8	65.0	-	53.9	52.0	-
% 45 - 60 "	20.5	9.1	-	16.2	14.0	-	20.0	18.8	-
% over 60 "	7.6	6.9	-	7.2	7.5	-	18.6	21.9	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	458	1,758	-	600	1,023	-	14,266	26,959
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	802	3,933	-	1,844	1,725	-	26,932	59,791
% referred.....	-	17.7	13.5	-	9.8	29.7	-	27.4	9.9
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	457	468	2,756	1,572	1,418	794	16,226	14,667	30,754
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month....	-	7,000	6,100	-	11,400	12,100	-	493,300	461,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " " ....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.49	32.05
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's) .....	-	26	-	-	4	4	-	3,779	2,786

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945
Ratio of unemployment end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed) .....	164	147	216	111	105	149	30	19	36
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month .....	1,544	2,056	1,827	78	59	105	234	184	373
2. Vacs. notified during month .....	-	1,328	1,930	-	537	150	-	394	673
3. Jobs available during month .....	-	3,384	3,757	-	596	255	-	578	1,046
4. Jobs filled by referral .....	-	560	967	-	458	136	-	213	435
5. Jobs filled without referral .....	-	1,154	1,380	-	203	202	-	340	312
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month .....	809	1,544	1,809	41	78	94	167	234	321
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month .....	9,981	8,465	13,085	1,071	907	1,355	380	346	762
% female .....	27.6	36.2	33.0	33.9	36.2	18.7	12.9	18.2	10.4
% veterans .....	18.4	19.2	10.5	7.2	10.9	4.1	26.1	24.3	25.3
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more .....	14.5	14.2	7.3	6.5	10.1	1.5	20.5	14.2	17.5
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month .....	9,495	8,320	6,897	1,009	892	1,249	334	317	682
% under 20 years .....	13.4	14.5	-	12.6	13.0	-	18.2	25.5	-
% 20 - 45 " .....	69.7	70.7	-	65.3	62.7	-	55.1	55.2	-
% 45 - 60 " .....	12.4	10.9	-	9.2	11.5	-	17.4	11.7	-
% over 60 " .....	4.5	3.9	-	12.9	12.8	-	9.3	7.6	-
2. Applicants registered during month .....	-	4,402	5,770	-	833	535	-	446	873
3. Total workers available in month .....	-	12,867	18,855	-	1,740	1,890	-	792	1,635
% referred .....	-	8.7	7.6	-	28.9	8.2	-	39.6	32.1
4. Unplaced apps., end of month .....	11,105	9,981	14,549	1,128	1,071	1,590	604	380	672
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month .....	-	67,800	67,500	-	10,200	10,700	-	20,100	18,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " .....	-	29.10	27.10	-	-	-	-	28.73	26.76
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's) .....	-	378	73	-	103	2	-	35	284

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Sorel			Three Rivers			Valleyfield		
	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	107	97	447	116	106	87	132	104	104
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	218	93	83	222	197	494	271	241	381
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	380	254	-	535	543	-	562	354
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	473	337	-	732	1,037	-	803	735
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	146	255	-	230	445	-	256	337
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	133	5	-	519	73	-	221	77
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	69	218	24	112	222	467	250	271	248
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	804	593	2,001	3,632	3,319	2,625	636	680	740
% female.....	14.8	14.8	9.3	15.1	20.3	32.7	14.5	25.1	7.7
% veterans.....	5.5	6.7	-	13.5	14.0	7.2	11.3	10.9	8.1
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	4.1	5.9	-	10.2	10.8	4.4	6.9	7.4	3.2
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	762	580	1,971	3,589	3,242	2,523	598	601	641
% under 20 years.....	13.9	14.2	-	18.3	31.5	-	8.9	11.5	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	63.7	62.9	-	66.6	53.8	-	62.0	64.4	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	13.9	14.8	-	10.8	10.8	-	19.6	15.6	-
% over 60 ".....	8.5	8.1	-	4.3	3.9	-	9.5	8.5	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	588	790	-	1,211	1,432	-	520	606
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,181	2,791	-	4,530	4,057	-	1,200	1,346
% referred.....	-	14.3	8.9	-	8.0	11.6	-	20.8	28.5
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	889	804	2,460	3,972	3,632	2,928	807	636	646
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	-	8,300	5,500	-	34,200	33,500	-	6,100	6,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " ".....	-	-	-	-	32.31	30.06	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	-	1	-	21	49	-	-	41

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Brantford			Pt. William & Pt. Arthur			W. Hamilton		
	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed) .....	32	19	33	96	75	138	53	45	52
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month .....	464	426	565	3,308	3,505	2,141	1,604	1,653	1,715
2. Vacs. notified during month .....	-	520	726	-	2,549	2,475	-	2,189	2,202
3. Jobs available during month .....	-	946	1,291	-	6,054	4,616	-	3,842	3,917
4. Jobs filled by referral .....	-	246	701	-	1,349	2,137	-	1,198	1,281
5. Jobs filled without referral .....	-	284	63	-	1,918	1,581	-	1,493	1,608
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month .....	440	464	456	2,019	3,308	1,605	1,618	1,604	1,354
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month .....	327	289	520	1,823	1,774	2,175	3,715	4,474	3,998
% female .....	23.2	38.8	48.1	28.2	35.7	39.1	16.9	18.8	23.8
% veterans .....	30.3	15.9	17.5	22.8	24.9	15.6	33.9	32.8	25.1
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more .....	18.0	8.3	2.7	13.4	12.2	6.1	26.8	18.2	20.4
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month .....	302	266	398	1,592	1,538	2,672	3,466	4,193	3,918
% under 20 years .....	7.3	9.4	-	8.5	10.8	-	8.5	9.6	-
% 20 - 45 " .....	48.4	48.5	-	61.5	61.8	-	55.5	61.2	-
% 45 - 60 " .....	24.8	19.9	-	18.9	15.7	-	19.6	16.6	-
% over 60 " .....	19.5	22.2	-	11.1	11.7	-	16.4	12.6	-
2. Applicants registered during month .....	-	453	1,029	-	1,498	2,753	-	2,717	4,390
3. Total workers available in month .....	-	742	1,549	-	3,272	5,928	-	7,191	8,388
% referred .....	-	41.6	62.4	-	26.3	32.6	-	36.4	28.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month .....	555	327	511	2,339	1,823	3,261	4,383	3,715	4,239
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month .....	-	17,100	15,300	-	24,300	23,600	-	83,400	81,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " .....	-	-	-	-	36.83	34.98	-	34.65	32.57
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's) .....	-	94	37	-	352	291	-	386	411

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Kingston			Kitchener-Waterloo			London		
	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	41	30	34	6	5	4	39	30	39
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	260	281	318	1,190	1,155	1,094	1,043	1,463	1,142
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	738	643	-	1,216	1,226	-	1,628	1,333
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	1,019	961	-	2,371	2,320	-	3,091	3,075
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	486	891	-	302	866	-	894	1,255
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	149	59	-	556	143	-	454	343
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	218	260	307	933	1,190	896	1,051	1,043	871
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	541	580	441	181	258	226	1,031	875	1,237
% female.....	28.7	34.1	34.2	7.2	8.9	16.8	17.3	23.2	17.3
% veterans.....	28.5	25.9	35.8	29.8	34.9	39.4	40.3	36.2	37.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	26.2	21.0	25.9	16.6	16.3	6.2	20.3	14.6	16.2
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	544	540	378	170	210	105	830	747	1,063
% under 20 years.....	23.0	21.9	-	12.9	14.3	-	16.6	18.6	-
% 20 - 45 "	50.5	52.8	-	51.2	55.7	-	46.5	39.8	-
% 45 - 60 "	14.7	15.7	-	17.7	14.8	-	21.5	22.9	-
% over 60 "	11.8	9.6	-	18.2	15.2	-	15.4	18.7	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	782	877	-	397	950	-	1,526	2,026
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,362	1,318	-	655	1,176	-	2,401	3,263
% referred.....	-	57.5	67.6	-	84.0	92.6	-	61.9	58.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	737	541	557	228	181	137	1,310	1,031	1,142
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	-	17,900	16,600	-	37,800	34,500	-	34,000	29,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " .....	-	-	-	-	30.76	29.89	-	31.98	29.95
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	202	46	-	89	43	-	440	358

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	42	36	30	156	143	284	73	57	34
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vac., first of month.....	144	183	230	242	307	358	893	1,103	1,596
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	230	413	-	391	644	-	1,551	3,103
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	413	643	-	598	1,002	-	2,654	4,699
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	134	274	-	305	537	-	726	2,201
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	134	185	-	162	111	-	1,238	1,147
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	132	144	194	232	242	347	877	893	1,323
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	593	426	506	2,693	1,698	4,961	3,566	3,550	2,237
% female.....	22.8	31.0	19.6	30.5	50.5	44.7	45.4	49.4	16.8
% veterans.....	24.6	24.2	30.0	29.6	21.4	7.5	27.1	25.3	51.5
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	13.3	12.0	13.2	11.0	14.5	3.8	18.3	13.5	27.7
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	521	395	396	2,011	1,629	4,803	3,542	3,359	1,912
% under 20 years.....	15.2	15.7	-	13.0	14.9	-	9.2	8.8	-
% 20 - 45 "	56.0	53.2	-	62.8	67.0	-	56.6	57.2	-
% 45 - 60 "	17.9	17.2	-	20.2	13.3	-	26.1	22.5	-
% over 60 "	10.9	13.9	-	4.0	4.8	-	8.1	11.5	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	486	432	-	1,598	1,787	-	2,366	3,695
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	912	938	-	3,296	6,748	-	5,916	5,932
% referred.....	-	29.3	40.1	-	14.8	9.4	-	26.7	43.8
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	696	593	444	2,928	2,693	4,083	4,547	3,566	1,942
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	-	16,500	14,800	-	18,800	14,400	-	62,400	56,700
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.71	27.94
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	24	60	-	13	19	-	115	194

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Sudbury			Toronto			Welland		
	Jan. <sup>x</sup> 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. <sup>x</sup> 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. <sup>x</sup> 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed) .....	42	33	45	28	19	35	75	78	134
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month .....	1,519	2,489	760	15,154	19,254	10,537	198	245	195
2. Vacs. notified during month .....	-	1,154	1,468	-	19,002	14,220	-	321	542
3. Jobs available during month .....	-	3,643	2,228	-	38,256	24,757	-	566	737
4. Jobs filled by referral .....	-	950	945	-	5,339	8,574	-	209	380
5. Jobs filled without referral .....	-	814	323	-	9,282	5,328	-	80	53
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month .....	868	1,519	772	13,208	15,154	8,047	208	198	242
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month .....	1,011	1,099	1,375	7,643	8,423	16,896	767	823	961
% female .....	25.3	30.5	34.5	7.8	10.2	7.3	32.3	40.7	61.8
% veterans .....	23.3	21.1	14.3	40.5	39.7	48.8	19.2	16.0	9.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more .....	15.1	13.0	4.4	24.0	22.2	18.2	8.1	8.9	4.4
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month .....	837	867	1,020	6,916	7,687	13,673	731	792	901
% under 20 years .....	14.9	20.6	-	5.0	4.7	-	16.1	18.5	-
% 20 - 45 " .....	57.4	55.1	-	46.4	47.8	-	61.6	61.4	-
% 45 - 60 " .....	16.7	14.0	-	29.1	26.8	-	17.1	14.9	-
% over 60 " .....	11.0	10.3	-	19.5	20.7	-	5.2	5.2	-
2. Applicants registered during month .....	-	1,130	1,295	-	9,737	15,485	-	390	1,121
3. Total workers available in month .....	-	2,229	2,670	-	18,160	32,381	-	1,213	2,082
% referred .....	-	44.8	34.9	-	51.0	33.5	-	23.3	24.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month .....	1,290	1,011	1,246	11,049	7,643	13,143	734	767	1,342
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month .....	-	30,800	28,000	-	399,100	375,800	-	9,800	10,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " .....	-	-	-	-	34.35	32.38	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's) .....	-	20	20	-	3,639	1,223	-	108	26

<sup>x</sup> Figures subject to revision.



Item	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	Jan. <sup>x</sup> 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. <sup>x</sup> 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. <sup>x</sup> 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed) .....	146	159	473	87	69	54	82	53	67
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month .....	143	236	317	2,314	4,075	2,688	414	449	574
2. Vacs. notified during month .....	-	886	1,254	-	3,835	4,550	-	1,057	1,119
3. Jobs available during month .....	-	1,122	1,571	-	7,910	7,238	-	1,506	1,693
4. Jobs filled by referral .....	-	744	1,112	-	3,547	3,603	-	812	881
5. Jobs filled without referral .....	-	486	211	-	1,663	1,697	-	448	293
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month .....	143	143	284	2,150	2,314	2,114	328	414	551
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month .....	8,099	7,064	10,312	10,131	8,104	8,319	1,755	1,191	1,299
% female .....	20.9	27.9	22.7	16.4	21.2	18.9	21.1	18.1	21.5
% veterans .....	31.5	26.2	23.0	41.0	40.7	38.1	41.4	44.9	41.8
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more .....	29.4	23.1	14.1	15.9	24.5	22.2	36.1	29.9	15.2
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month .....	7,922	7,003	10,257	7,718	6,258	7,322	1,561	1,078	1,234
% under 20 years .....	9.1	10.1	-	10.1	9.5	-	15.5	16.1	-
% 20 - 45 " .....	67.7	73.5	-	58.6	58.2	-	57.7	52.7	-
% 45 - 60 " .....	20.4	13.4	-	19.4	19.0	-	20.8	23.2	-
% over 60 " .....	2.8	3.0	-	11.9	13.3	-	6.0	8.0	-
2. Applicants registered during month .....	-	3,473	4,623	-	8,620	7,323	-	2,450	1,887
3. Total workers available in month .....	-	10,535	14,935	-	16,724	15,642	-	3,641	3,186
% referred .....	-	10.9	10.0	-	28.1	32.9	-	40.2	37.9
4. Unplaced apps., end of month .....	7,430	8,099	11,828	12,735	10,131	7,310	2,700	1,755	1,574
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month .....	-	50,800	25,000	-	146,000	135,500	-	33,100	30,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " .....	-	40.73	39.08	-	31.68	29.76	-	30.17	28.12
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's) .....	-	587	123	-	822	881	-	22	74

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	51	47	28	88	76	67	59	46	40
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	349	335	331	598	708	897	922	938	1,385
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	565	658	-	1,606	1,961	-	2,874	3,359
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	900	989	-	2,314	2,858	-	3,812	4,744
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	287	448	-	1,109	1,636	-	1,877	2,379
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	402	530	-	728	622	-	1,165	1,025
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	267	349	324	462	598	644	718	922	1,391
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	2,099	2,123	1,445	3,756	3,411	3,011	3,352	3,082	2,538
% female.....	21.1	21.3	21.0	14.8	18.4	20.1	12.2	17.1	23.4
% veterans.....	37.9	33.1	38.8	49.1	47.2	40.7	42.5	40.0	38.1
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	29.2	16.4	16.9	37.5	28.4	18.9	21.3	19.5	14.0
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month..	1,541	1,380	1,175	3,544	3,245	2,818	3,063	2,849	2,325
% under 20 years.....	13.9	15.2	-	8.4	10.5	-	10.0	13.5	-
% 20 - 45 " .....	59.6	59.6	-	58.8	54.5	-	57.0	56.2	-
% 45 - 60 " .....	18.9	17.6	-	22.9	24.3	-	24.7	21.3	-
% over 60 " .....	7.6	7.6	-	9.9	10.7	-	8.3	9.0	-
Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,473	1,639	-	2,534	2,808	-	3,862	4,011
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	3,596	3,084	-	5,945	5,819	-	6,944	6,549
% referred.....	-	20.9	15.1	-	26.0	35.5	-	37.4	44.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	2,273	2,099	1,183	4,342	3,756	3,020	4,305	3,352	2,789
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	-	44,700	41,700	-	49,500	45,100	-	73,400	68,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " .....	-	30.82	27.56	-	32.78	31.40	-	31.45	29.91
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	782	1,070	-	162	226	-	939	414

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Trail			Vancouver			Victoria		
	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. x 1947	Dec. 1946	Dec. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	45	40	42	94	81	93	49	49	51
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	102	137	108	2,160	2,600	4,347	433	547	692
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	154	129	-	6,175	8,098	-	1,298	1,980
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	291	237	-	8,775	12,445	-	1,845	2,672
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	144	105	-	3,474	5,965	-	962	1,610
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	42	19	-	5,052	2,951	-	482	181
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	86	102	86	1,992	2,160	3,528	459	433	642
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	382	396	255	16,290	15,620	16,316	2,313	2,313	2,144
% female.....	35.3	42.4	59.2	14.9	16.6	19.8	20.0	22.9	24.7
% veterans.....	21.2	22.2	11.8	37.9	38.3	35.5	34.7	36.8	40.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	14.4	17.9	7.5	24.4	23.8	8.9	23.4	25.6	7.4
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month...	365	310	215	15,272	14,831	14,323	2,124	2,238	1,993
% under 20 years.....	12.0	18.4	-	7.5	9.0	-	18.9	14.4	-
% 20 - 45 " .....	63.3	51.3	-	54.3	54.7	-	37.7	43.2	-
% 45 - 60 " .....	16.2	16.8	-	28.3	25.5	-	25.5	26.2	-
% over 60 " .....	8.5	13.5	-	9.9	10.8	-	17.9	17.2	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	269	239	-	12,278	16,559	-	1,677	2,508
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	665	494	-	27,898	32,875	-	3,990	4,652
% referred.....	-	20.8	23.3	-	19.3	23.0	-	29.5	37.6
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	428	382	343	18,773	16,290	17,734	2,297	2,313	2,403
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month....	-	9,500	8,200	-	199,900	190,800	-	47,100	47,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ....	-	-	-	-	34.56	33.08	-	33.19	31.39
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	1	1	-	1,436	2,158	-	538	549

x Figures subject to revision.



Revised Estimate of Wage and Salary Workers Employed in Canada, 1946

Date	Wage and Salary Workers (to nearest thousand)
January 1, 1946.....	2,684
February 1 " .....	2,667
March 1 " .....	2,664
April 1 " .....	2,695
May 1 " .....	2,700
June 1 " .....	2,709
July 1 " .....	2,767
August 1 " .....	2,756
September 1 " .....	2,798
October 1 " .....	2,840
November 1 " .....	2,913
December 1 " .....	2,957

A statement of the revised method of arriving at the estimate will be printed in the next issue of the Canadian Labour Market.









# Canadian

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# LABOUR MARKET

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

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FEBRUARY  
1947

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
DEPT. OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

SPECIAL ARTICLE THIS MONTH.....

**BAROMETRICS FILE** # 7

THE TREND OF REAL AND MONEY WAGES  
IN MANUFACTURING IN CANADA

Government  
Publications







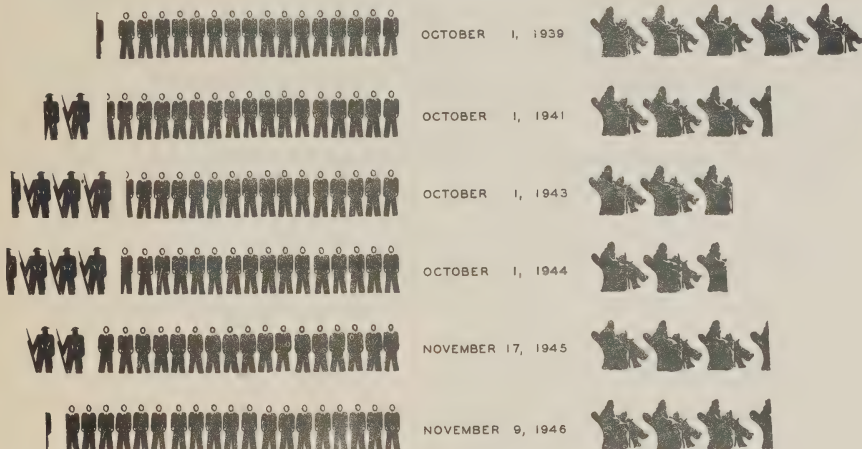
# DISTRIBUTION OF CANADIAN MANPOWER

EACH FIGURE REPRESENTS 200,000 PERSONS

## MALE

### WORKERS

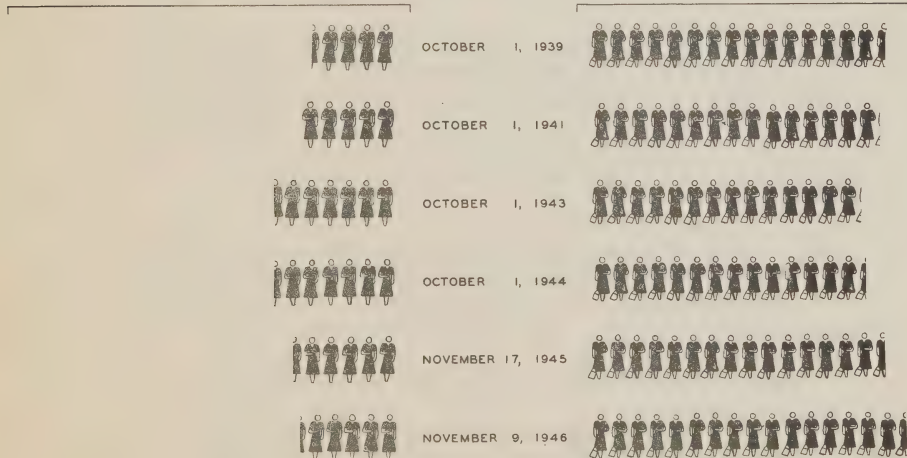
### NON - WORKERS



## FEMALE

### WORKERS

### NON - WORKERS



SOURCE OF DATA: FOR YEARS 1939 TO 1944, RES AND STAT BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR  
FOR YEARS 1945 AND 1946, D.B.S.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - - CH. M 2 - W. 1



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# THE MANPOWER PICTURE

## Current Situation

Employment conditions in Canada passed their seasonal low point one month earlier this year than in 1946. In 1947, the volume of unplaced applicants registered with National Employment Service offices began to drop during the latter part of February and early March. In addition, this year's peak in the number of registered jobless workers was about 70,000 below that of 1946. All current indications are pointing to an initial general expansion of employment during March.

Manufacturing activity turned upward as early as January of this year. The extension of UNRRA shipping schedules for another three months, to the end of March, sustained that market for industrial goods. The basic steel industry in Canada is again operating at capacity. But the delayed effect of the loss of approximately one million tons of steel in 1946 through American and domestic strikes continues to be felt. The secondary steel industries, therefore, have not yet attained capacity operations because of these supply bottlenecks. Thus, in these industries a greater than normal growth of employment will occur until July at least.

Expansion in mining activity was reported in many areas during February, but in the Maritimes the coal strike blocked operations, and in the Prairies the shortage of box-cars hampered coal production. The establishment of conciliation boards in Ontario gold mining areas was indicative of the unrest which still prevails in that industry. It is felt, however, that the settlement of the Noranda strike will set a pattern for adjustment.

The volume of work in logging started to decline at the end of February, largely because of heavy snow conditions. Construction activity, other than "inside" work, was at a rather low level in February and will probably slump during the spring thaw, after which there will be a sharp expansion. Recently, many construction contracts were cancelled because of high building costs. Although this will tend to relieve the present strain on supplies and skilled labour, the industry will still have more work than it can handle in the coming months.

## The Outlook

The coming months should witness a rapid acceleration of industrial activity. Seasonal pressures alone will promote a substantial upswing, and this together with the relatively undiminished pressure of demand both at home and abroad should stimulate a record level of production. In Canada, the level of production and therefore of employment is largely dependent on the volume of the country's foreign trade. Canadian external trade in 1946 attained the \$4.2 billion mark--exports of \$2.3 billion and imports of \$1.9 billion--the highest ever recorded in a peace-time year. As this record level was reached despite widespread material shortages and industrial unrest, 1947 should see an even greater volume of foreign trade with an accompanying expansion in employment. The exhaustion of export credits may, however, be a modifying factor.

The type of goods bought in the domestic market will likely change during 1947. Consumers will buy a smaller proportion of non-durable goods and a greater proportion of durable commodities. The consumption of both types of goods has expanded since the end of the war and this expansion will probably continue. Reconversion problems, however, were more serious in industries producing durable goods and, therefore, there was a greater initial expansion in the sale of non-durable items. Even during the war, non-durable goods were in easier supply--thus deferred needs for this type of commodity did not become so great. The shift to the consumption of a greater proportion of durable goods will likely be more pronounced towards the end of 1947 when the output of automobiles, electrical goods, construction materials, and other durable goods speeds up.

Manufacturing--Employment forecasts for manufacturing up to July 1, 1947, indicate that strong upward pressures will persist in the important component industries.

In the textile and primary clothing industry, labour supply is the key to employment expansion. Forecasts by employers in this industry indicate an expansion of employment, but an even larger labour force than forecasted could be employed if the workers were available. One employer alone reports that he could take on 6,200 workers above his actual forecast. Relatively low wages (per capita weekly earnings are about \$27) seem to be the main factor deterring workers from accepting employment in this industry. Greater stability in labour relations will probably occur as most of the agreements negotiated in 1946 will remain in effect during the coming year.

In the pulp and paper industry, employment forecasts indicate a moderate upward trend, but, as the industry is already working at capacity, stabilization and a slight decline is the long range probability once current demand is satisfied. No significant improvement over the production record of 1946 should be expected--maintenance of current output is the immediate task. An all-time record of 4.1 million tons of newsprint were produced in 1946, of which 81 per cent went to the United States. The 530,000 tons of Canadian newsprint marked for export to countries other than the U.S. fell far short of world requirements.



In the furniture and electrical goods industry, the trend of employment will be sharply upward. With the settlement of labour disputes and the improvement in the supply of materials, greatly increased production is planned. Shortages of skilled and unskilled workers prevail in certain areas, and problems of absenteeism and lowered productivity also cause anxiety in some plants.

Firms producing vehicles forecast a moderate upward trend in employment. Following the industrial disruption caused by widespread strikes during 1946, the industry is making a rapid recovery to normal production.

Employment in basic steel firms is expected to remain stable, but a promising upward trend is indicated in the secondary steel industry as steel shortages ease. No stoppages of work are anticipated in the basic steel industry during the first half of 1947, but some labour disputes may occur in secondary steel plants where employees have not been granted the wage increases given to basic steel workers in 1946.

In the agricultural producers' goods industry, the forecasts indicate a continuation of the upward cyclical trend of employment. The volume of sales this year should reach unprecedented levels in view of the heavy backlog of demand both in the domestic and foreign markets. The excellent agricultural crop of 1946, and the higher prices for farm goods, have maintained the purchasing power of the Canadian farmer. Capacity operations in the farm implements industry are expected for at least another two years. Meanwhile, shortages of material (though less critical than heretofore) and a high rate of labour turnover plague the industry.

A continuing upward trend of employment in the construction materials industry is forecast. The huge private construction program plus the considerable post-war industrial expansion will maintain boom conditions in this industry for a number of years. Various firms in the industry are extending their plant facilities in order to be able to meet the great need for construction materials.

Logging--The three stages of logging operations in eastern Canada--cutting, hauling, and driving--are all governed by the weather. In the pre-war years, the best cutting period normally came in the fall and continued until February, unless snow conditions blocked operations. Hauling usually began in February and lasted until late in March, since snow was plentiful throughout this period. River driving normally began in April.

During the war years, these respective periods of activity were of longer duration due to the manpower shortage on one hand and the great need for wood and paper products on the other hand. Current indications, however, suggest that this year's logging season is tending to return to the pre-war pattern of activity. Employment forecasts indicate a rapid drop between February and April with a more moderate decline from April to July. During the war, the seasonal drop did not come until April.

Mining--Employment forecasts for the coal mining industry point to a slight upward trend, which, however, may be completely

disrupted because of the Maritime coal strike. A shortage of skilled miners continues to exist in the industry.

The expected large-scale expansion of employment in the metal mining industry during 1946 failed to materialize and only a slight increase is forecast for the first half of 1947. Recent upward revisions in domestic base metal prices should provide a much-needed shot in the arm for the industry. Labour shortages are gradually easing, and screening of inefficient workers now is becoming possible. Lack of housing still intensifies the shortage of labour.

### Industrial Employment

Cyclical rise tapers off--The cyclical rise in the trend of industrial employment<sup>1</sup> slowed down slightly at January 1, 1947. Seasonally, there was the usual sharp drop which occurs at this time of the year.

The slackening in the upward cyclical movement of employment was mainly due to the strike in the mine and plant at Noranda, Quebec, of Noranda Mines, Limited. This dispute involved 1,150 workers. The return of logging operations to the pre-war pattern of activity, however, also acted as a depressing influence on cyclical expansion at this time.

The seasonal drop in employment was due to the regular curtailment of activity at this time of the year in "outdoor" industries and trade along with inventory shutdowns in many manufacturing industries.

For the month ending January 1, 1947, employment dropped 2.3 per cent. Over the immediately preceding 36 months, the average drop in employment from December 1 to January 1 was 2.5 per cent. The current movement, therefore, is almost in line with this seasonal pattern, although a slight upward cyclical pressure is indicated.

Seasonal swings of employment again increasing--During the war years (1940-1945), the seasonal drop at this period averaged 2.7 per cent. In the pre-war years (1931-1939), the seasonal drop during the same period averaged 5.8 per cent. The war, therefore, eliminated a considerable part of the seasonal movement in employment at this time of year. Since the end of the war, however, seasonal swings have started to grow wider again despite the continuing high level of employment. During the three years 1939 to 1941, the average seasonal change from December 1 to January 1 was 5.4 per cent. This movement narrowed steadily after that period until it averaged only 1.7 per cent, over the years 1943 to 1945. In the past 36 months it has increased to 2.5 per cent.

Construction activity approaches mid-winter lull--Employment in construction fell 11.5 per cent from December 1, 1946, to January 1, 1947, as the industry approached its seasonal employment low point. The average seasonal movement at this time of the year as derived from the experience of the past 36 months was a decline of 15.7 per cent.

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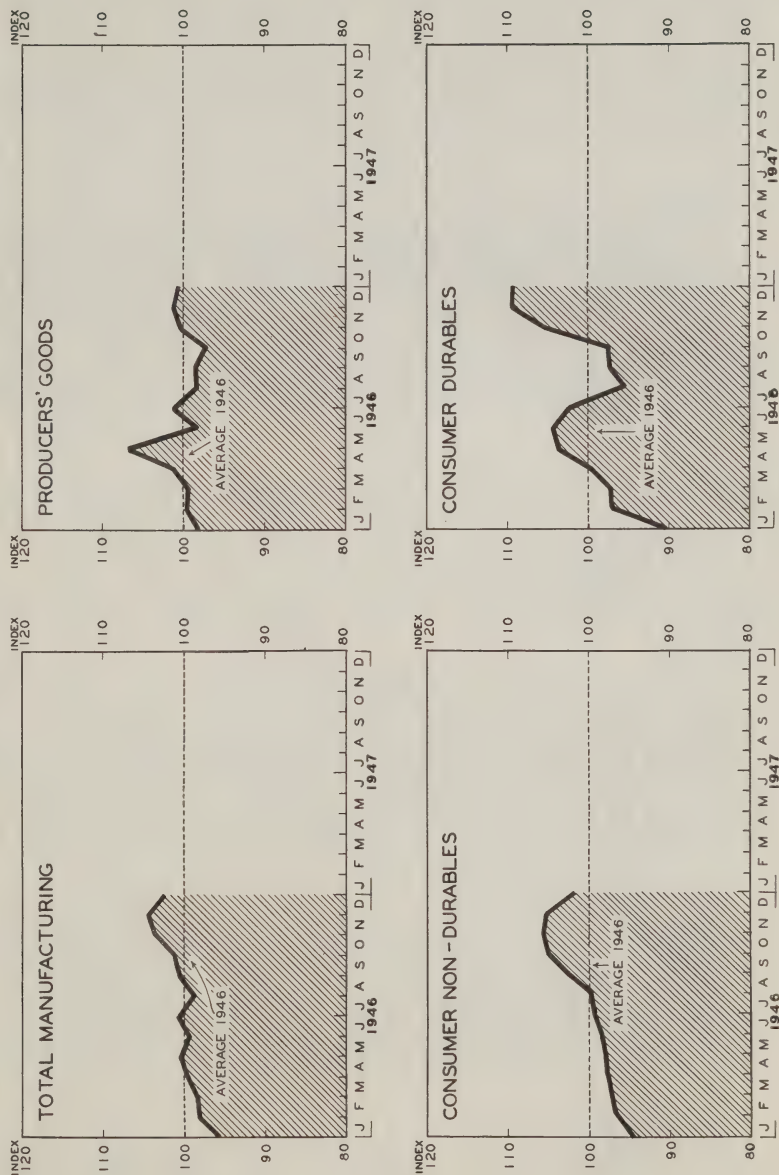
<sup>1</sup> Industrial employment in the nine leading industries as reported by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for firms employing 15 or more workers.

# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

## MAJOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

(INDUSTRIES GROUPED ACCORDING TO GENERAL USE OF PRODUCTS)

1946 — 1947



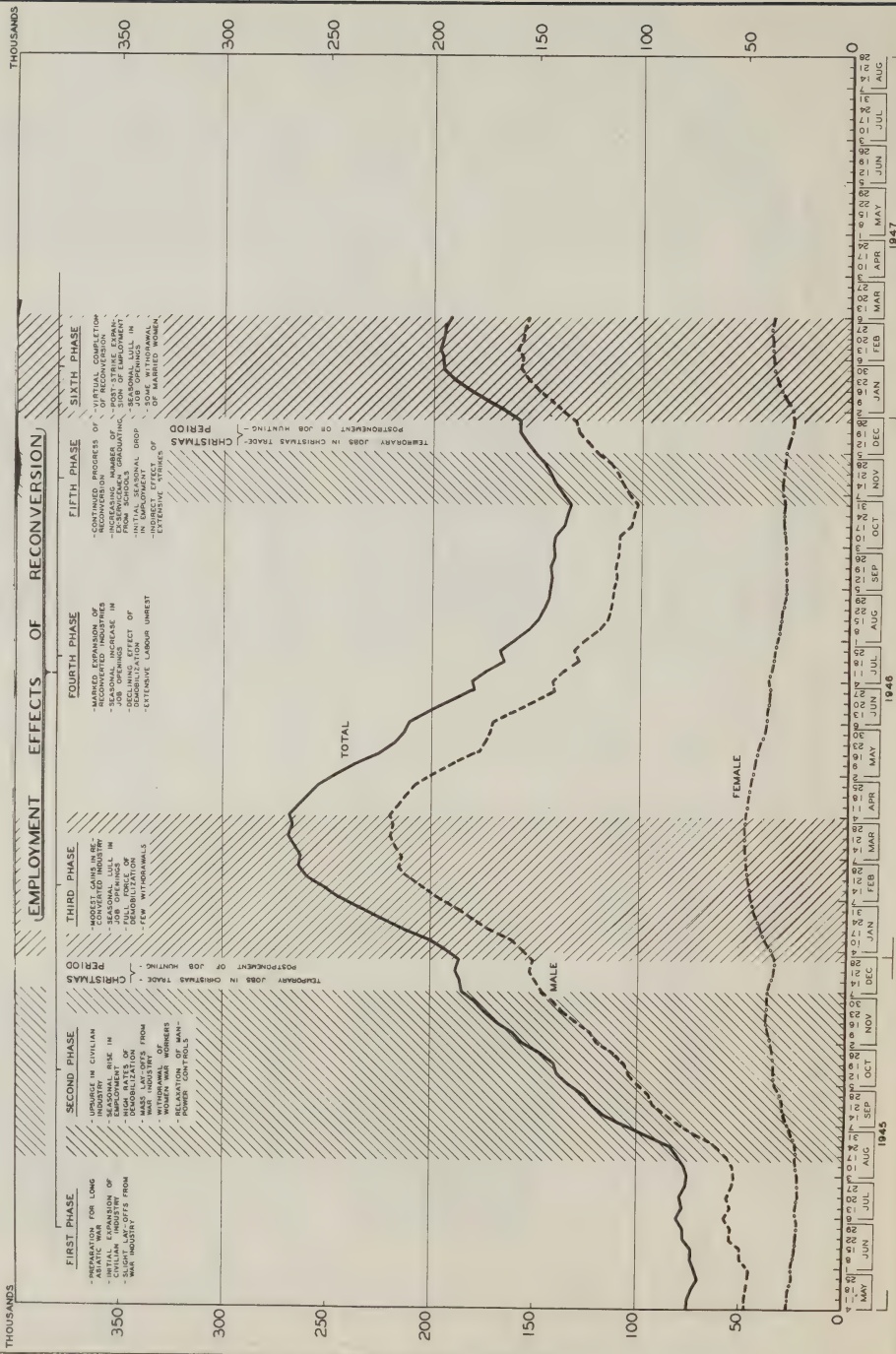
SOURCE: EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS BRANCH - D.B.S.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH -- DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M.2-L.1



# UNPLACED APPLICANTS IN CANADA

AS REPORTED BY THE  
NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



This year the seasonal lay-off was not so extensive as in other years because work was continued on the construction of engineering structures, hospitals, and commercial buildings.

Activity in mining at low ebb--Employment in the mining industry was also approaching a seasonal low point. Between December 1, 1946, and the beginning of 1947 it fell 3.7 per cent. Over the previous 36 months, the average change at this time of the year has been nil. Most of the current drop was due to the Noranda strike.

In pre-war years (1928-1941), the average seasonal movement at this time of the year was a decline of 2.7 per cent. The seasonal peak in these years was reached at the beginning of November. During the war years, however, the effect of manpower controls moved this peak ahead four months to March 1. As yet there are no indications of a return to the pre-war seasonal pattern.

Labour shortages and increased operating costs in this industry have been putting a damper on expansion plans. It is expected, however, that the situation will improve during 1947 and that expansion programs will get underway after the spring break-up.

Seasonal gain in logging employment--Employment in logging rose 3.3 per cent from December 1, 1946, to January 1, 1947. This was less than the current seasonal movement and slightly more than that in pre-war years. The current seasonal movement (derived from the past 36 months) shows an increase of 5.3 per cent in employment at this time of the year. As mentioned elsewhere, a change in the seasonal pattern of employment in this industry is at present underway.

Inventory shut-downs in manufacturing--Temporary shut-downs for inventory counting caused sizable employment declines in many manufacturing industries, but the inadequate flow of materials continued to be a restricting factor. Small employment gains in the household furniture, electrical goods, machinery building, and non-ferrous metal groups were offset by declines in all other sectors so that general manufacturing employment fell by 1.8 per cent at January 1, 1947. The average seasonal decline at this time of the year as derived from the experience of the past 36 months, however, was 2.0 per cent. A slight cyclical expansion, therefore, is indicated.

Despite labour disputes and material shortages, manufacturing employment experienced an increase of 6.9 per cent in 1946. The main factors which point to a continuance of this upward trend during 1947 are the anticipated improvement in the material supply situation, continuing demand supported by a high level of income, continuing expansion of the export market, and completion of additional plant facilities. In all, the future outlook is quite promising.

Non-durables approach seasonal low--The consumer non-durable goods industries underwent a steady employment rise during 1946. The increase amounted to 7.3 per cent. Nevertheless, the usual seasonal low was approached during December and employment declined by 3.4 per cent in that month. According to the 1941-1945 seasonal pattern, the

decline in food industries was to be expected. The experience of the years 1931-1937 shows that the fall in firms producing beverages was also seasonal. Expansion in the beverage industry was still being restricted by controls on sugar and shortages of glass containers.

Employment also declined seasonally in the industries ancillary to consumer non-durable goods. Labour shortages, namely of women workers, have been restricting operations in the industries primary to textiles.

Brighter outlook for consumer durables--An anticipated improvement in steel supplies and continuing pent-up demand for durable goods point to a more promising outlook in this group. Throughout 1946, employment rose by 20.5 per cent. Little change occurred during December when shortages of steel were still restricting production of such durables as automobiles. Seasonal movements have been put out of focus by industrial strife and its after-effects.

1946 employment trend irregular in producer goods--Industrial tie-ups in basic steel industries and B.C. sawmills produced an irregular employment trend in this group during 1946. Future expansion will depend on the supply of steel.

The fact that employment rose only 2.4 per cent in 1946 is some indication of the effect of material bottlenecks in these industries.

#### Unemployment

Seasonal unemployment passes peak--Despite a sharp seasonal upswing in unplaced applicants this winter, jobless workers did not reach the 200,000 mark--what is more, the peak (197,000) came in the middle of February--earlier than expected. By the end of February there were 195,000 men and women out of work registered at employment service offices, a decrease of 1,000 since the beginning of the month and 70,000 fewer than the number out of work one year ago. Indications are that the slump was merely a pause before a burst of industrial activity and a sharp rise in employment.

Of the 195,000 out of work, 157,000 were men. Women jobseekers increased to 38,000 from 37,000 at the beginning of February.

Live claims continue to soar--Live claims rose to a new height as at the last working day of January with a total of 103,995 (81,678 males and 22,317 females) persons signing the unemployment register. This indicates that 54 per cent of all unplaced applicants were claiming unemployment insurance at that date. Widespread reductions in seasonal industries were largely responsible for the rise in live claims.

Claims disallowed totalled 15,149 during January--4,010 more than in December. Claims disallowed because of loss of work due to labour disputes numbered only 15--a decrease from the previous month. Insufficient contributions accounted for 7,692 while 3,345 were for voluntarily leaving work without just cause--both representing increases over December.



Termination of benefit payments relatively the same—During December, 1946, benefit payments were terminated for 58,728 workers, an increase of 644 over the November total. Lapsing of benefit rights continued to be the major cause of termination with 30,247 or 52 per cent of the workers concerned terminating benefit years in this manner. During the previous month, 27,308 or 47 per cent lapsed benefit rights.

Downturn in exhausted benefit rights—A total of 4,341 persons exhausted their benefit rights during December—1,594 fewer than in November. Of those whose benefit rights were exhausted, 31 per cent were over 60 years of age and 24 per cent were between 20 and 30. On the basis of occupations, 24 per cent of those exhausting benefit rights were manufacturing and mechanical workers while 30 per cent were labourers.

### Payrolls and Weekly Earnings

Holidays play havoc with payrolls and weekly earnings—Largely as a result of holidays in the Christmas season, aggregate payrolls fell. The index<sup>2</sup> declined from 159.5 at December 1, to 150.5 at January 1, 1947.

Per capita weekly earnings also fell for the same period. In this case, the decline was from \$34.02 to \$32.77. Here again Christmas holidays played the major role.

### Hourly Earnings

Hourly earnings rise—Continuing the uptrend of recent months average hourly earnings per wage-earner in manufacturing reached 76.2 cents at the beginning of 1947. This was the highest figure in the past 27 months.

### Hours Worked

Inventory period affects hours worked—Temporary lay-offs due to the inventory period in many manufacturing firms caused a decline in average weekly hours from 43.2 to 38.1 hours at January 1. Christmas holidays also affected hours worked.

### Cost-of-Living Index

Cost-of-living index up 0.8 points—The cost-of-living index<sup>3</sup> advanced from 127.0 for January 2 to 127.8 for February 1, 1947. Higher prices in pork, tea, coffee, and fresh vegetables were largely responsible for the rise.

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<sup>2</sup>Aggregate payroll index (June 1, 1941=100)

<sup>3</sup>D.B.S. index (1935 - 1939=100)

### Strikes and Lockouts

Further slowdown in strike activity—Actual strike activity during January was confined mainly to Noranda mine workers and Nova Scotia fishermen. The 12 strikes in existence during the month involved 3,302 workers with a time loss of 28,519 man-working days. Throughout the preceding month there were 10 strikes with 2,256 workers involved and a time loss of 23,804 days. Strike activity was at relatively the same level as in January, 1946.

As January drew to a close the following strikes remained unsettled: fishermen in Nova Scotia; mine workers at Noranda; compositors; coal miners at Glace Bay, N.S.; food products factoryworkers at Vancouver; shoe factory workers at Kitchener and seed packers at Brandon.

By the end of January, a feeling of unrest overcast certain sectors of the industrial scene with the Nova Scotia coal miners scheduled to go on strike by the middle of February. Shortly after termination of the Noranda strike, the 13,000 coal miners walked off their jobs with demands for higher pay and more mechanized equipment. This means that Canada's coal production will be cut in half for the duration of this strike and the 100,000 people who depend on Nova Scotia's coal industry for a livelihood will be affected considerably.

Canada is not wholly in the same position, however, as Britain or the United States when coal production ceases or is dangerously reduced. Normally Canada must rely on imports to meet a large portion of her coal requirements. Nevertheless, the Canadian economy is partially dependent on the output of Maritime mines and any prolonged strike in the industry will directly affect Canadian industry. Already, communities around the Maritime mining areas are beginning to feel the pinch. Not only does the strike affect miners and their families but also merchants and professional workers who depend on their business.

At present, several factors influence the approximate time the Maritime coal strike will last. One of the main factors is the amount of financial support which will be received by the striking union from other organized labour groups throughout the country. If the International Miners Union fails to increase the amount allotted for strike relief, continuation of a major strike will depend on such support. The Canadian Congress of Labour in British Columbia has already started a campaign to raise funds for the Nova Scotia miners.

# SIGNIFICANT LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

PRE-WAR, WAR, AND POST-WAR COMPARISON

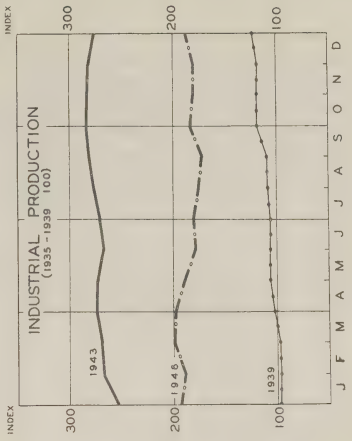
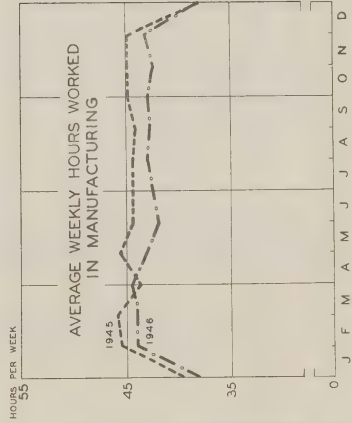
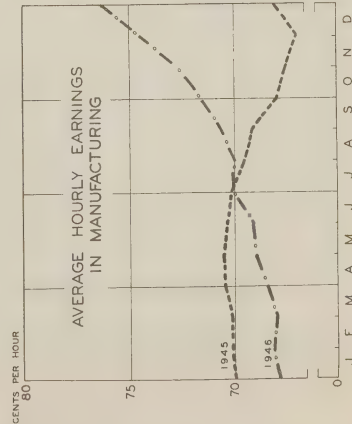
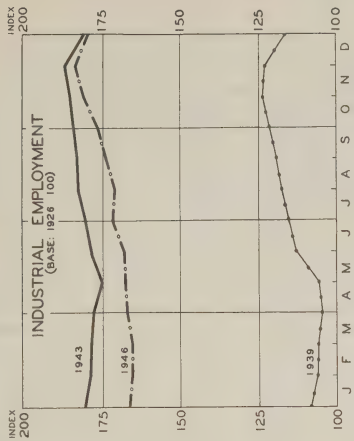
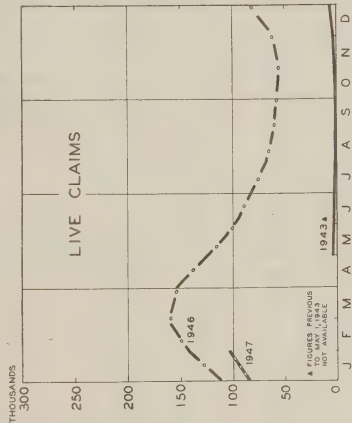
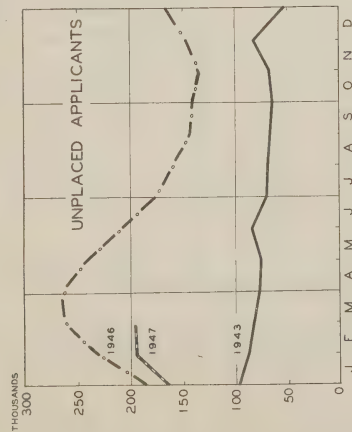






Table I--Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note:--All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Indicators	Jan. 1939	Jan. 1941	Jan. 1942	Jan. 1943	Jan. 1944	Jan. 1945	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1946	Jan. 1947
Employment (a)--									
Index (Av. 1926 = 100).....	108.1	133.1	163.6	182.7	182.8	177.9	166.4	184.0	179.8
(June 1, 1941 = 100)...	-	-	108.2	111.5	120.9	117.9	110.3	121.9	119.2
Number (thousands).....	1,161	1,429	1,756	1,940	1,963	1,910	1,786	1,976	1,938
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	456	445
Unplaced Applicants (b)									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	50.9	60.0	186.0	146.8	164.2
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	34.4	41.3	151.6	115.1	136.0
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	16.5	18.7	34.4	31.7	28.2
Live Claims--									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	6.2	19.3	113.4	63.8	84.4
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	4.9	14.3	91.1	46.9	67.4
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	1.3	5.0	22.3	16.9	17.0
Earnings (a)--									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941 = 100)...	-	-	112.0	130.9	139.5	137.6	128.1	159.9	150.5
Per capita weekly earnings..	-	-	26.27	28.01	29.77	30.18	30.02	34.02	32.77
Cost of Living (c)--									
(Av. 1935 = 100).....	-	108.3	115.4	117.1	119.0	118.6	119.9	127.1	127.8
Man-hours and hourly earnings (a)--									
Average hours per week.....	-	-	-	-	-	39.6	38.1	43.2	38.1
Average hourly earnings.....	-	-	-	-	-	70.0	67.9	74.5	76.2
Strikes and lockouts (b)--									
Number.....	12	14	14	33	26	17	12	10	12
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	1.3	1.7	2.9	19.9	8.1	5.5	2.9	2.3	3.3
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	10.5	3.5	46.6	166.7	23.7	31.9	20.6	23.8	28.5
Industrial Production (d)--									
(Av. 1935-39 = 100)...	97.6	156.0	216.5	254.6	275.4	245.8	193.9	180.2	187.5

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

Table II—Employment Trends by Major Industrial Groups

(Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S.)

Industry	Jan. 1, 1946 (a)	Jan. 1, 1947 (b)	Change	
			Number	Per Cent
Consumer Non-durable Finished Goods Industries.....	294,768	312,856	18,088	6.1
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Non-durables.....	126,885	140,623	13,738	10.8
Consumer Durable Finished Goods Industries.....	115,955	139,873	23,918	20.6
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Durables.....	1,328	1,501	173	13.0
Producer Goods Industries.....	376,323	384,341	8,018	2.4
Total Manufacturing.....	915,750	979,194	63,444	6.9

(a) Revised estimates.

(b) Preliminary.

Table III—Unplaced Applicants as a Percentage of  
Non-Agricultural Labour Force by Region

(Source: Labour Force Survey, D.B.S. Labour Demand and Supply, R. & S.)

Region	March 7, 1946			March 6, 1947		
	Non-Agric. Labour Force(a)	Unpl. Apps.	Per Cent	Non-Agric. Labour Force(b)	Unpl. Apps.	Per Cent
Maritimes.....	303,000	24,000	7.9	350,000	28,000	8.0
Quebec.....	1,072,000	85,000	7.9	1,124,000	52,000	4.6
Ontario.....	1,300,000	76,000	5.8	1,394,000	49,000	3.5
Prairies.....	462,000	42,000	9.1	526,000	37,000	7.0
Pacific.....	322,000	34,000	10.6	378,000	26,000	6.9
Canada.....	3,459,000	261,000	7.5	3,772,000	192,000	5.1

(a) D.B.S. Labour Force Survey of November 17, 1945.

(b) D.B.S. Labour Force Survey of November 9, 1946.



# THE TREND OF REAL AND MONEY WAGES IN MANUFACTURING IN CANADA

## Introduction

The initial period of post-war industrial adjustment has been completed. From the point of view of the individual worker employed on an hourly basis in manufacturing industries, there have been many changes in job and living conditions during the months since V-E day.

If he worked in a war plant, the individual worker probably found that he was unemployed for some time in the fall or winter of 1945. When he found work, he may have obtained a job which paid the hourly rate he was accustomed to receive; he may even have been re-employed with a more remunerative rate of pay. But it is more likely that he was forced to adjust himself to a lower hourly wage.

Perhaps, however, he continued to work at the job he held during the war years. His earnings, in this case, may have decreased as overtime work was discontinued.

Just what has happened to the earnings of the average wage earner in manufacturing?

## The Post-war Trend of Hourly Earnings

As war industries, which paid higher than average hourly rates, terminated production and closed down, the average hourly earnings of a worker employed in manufacturing fell from 70.5 cents in the payroll period preceding May 1, 1945, to a low point of 67.0 cents by December 1, 1945. This downward trend reflects not so much an actual cut in the wage rates paid as a change in the number of workers in industries which were paying a high hourly rate and in industries which were paying a low hourly rate. The latter were employing a greater and greater proportion of the total wage earners in manufacturing.

The first half of 1946 saw an increase of hourly earnings so that, by July, there had been a return to the level of July 1, 1945. This reversal in trend was due partly to increased employment, proportionately, in the heavy industries, which pay a higher than average rate, and partly to the higher rates of pay in both light and heavy industry.

In the latter half of 1946, wage rate increases arising out of industrial disputes brought about a continuation in the steady climb of hourly earnings. By December, with most strikes settled and with wage control terminated, the sharp rise was completed. Hourly earnings were 4.0 cents higher in the week preceding December 1, 1946, than in the week preceding May 1, 1945.

### Weekly Hours Worked

Average hours worked per week for wage earners in manufacturing industries showed a less marked downward trend during the latter part of 1945 than average hourly earnings. Curtailment of overtime in many plants was partly responsible for the fewer hours worked per week. The figures are shown in Table I.

The drop in average hours worked per week between May and September, 1945, was largely attributable to a decline in overtime worked. The decrease in hours from September, 1945, to December, 1946, was due largely to the direct or indirect effects of industrial disputes.

The effect of these concomitant movements in average hourly earnings and average hours worked per week on the income of the worker can most easily be seen by taking a look at the trend of average weekly wages, which are the product of the two factors.

### The Post-war Trend of Weekly Wages

Weekly wages, after the initial drop between May and June of 1945, slid gently downhill throughout the last six months of 1945. Strikes in mid-1946 brought wages to their lowest mark at \$29.02. Since then, there has been a steady rise, so that by December 1946, average weekly wages were \$32.18, to compare with \$32.08 in the week before May 1, 1945.

There is little meaning, however, in comparing wages at different periods of time unless allowance is made for changes in the purchasing power of money. Each dollar a worker has may be buying more or less food, more or less clothing, shelter, or amusement than it formerly did. Money wages adjusted for this change in dollar value will give an approximation of "real" wages, or "the quantity of the necessities and conveniences of life"<sup>1</sup> that are given in exchange for labour.

### The Cost-of-Living Index and its Meaning

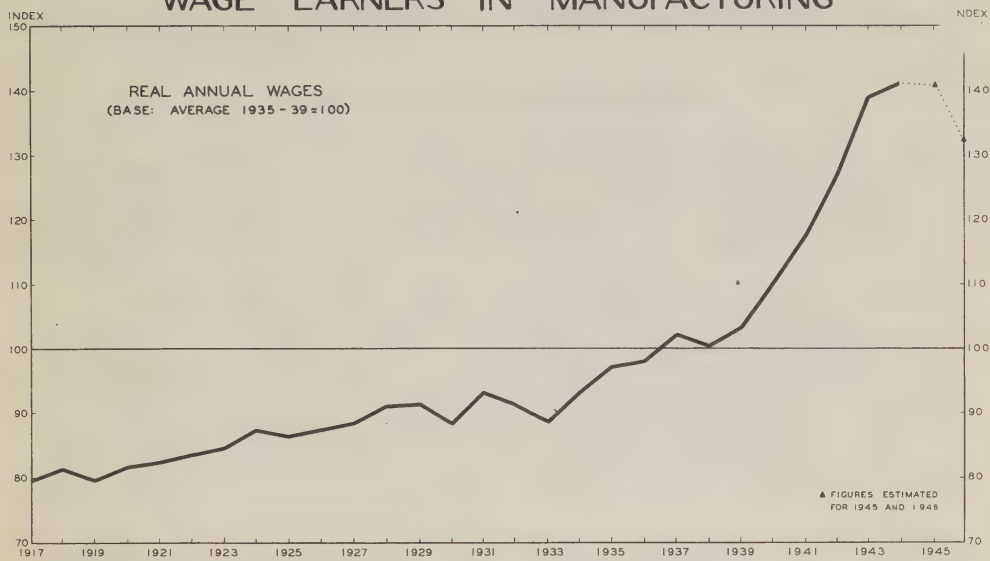
How should adjustment be made for changes in the value of the wage-earner's dollar? If the price of ships has doubled, the purchasing power of money in respect to ships has halved. But to the average worker it is of no immediate concern that dollar value has diminished in this way. Only when the price of the goods he buys has increased does the value of his dollar shrink. A measurement of changes in the prices of good and services purchased by the average wage-earner must, therefore, be determined.

In the year 1938, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics conducted a survey to determine how the average wage-earner disposed of his income. Upon this basis, an average family budget was drawn up to show the money cost of the goods consumed and the services utilized. At regular intervals since that time the money cost of the same goods and services was measured and an index, the cost-of-living index, was constructed showing

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<sup>1</sup> Adam Smith as quoted in Alfred Marshall, Principle of Economics, p.551.

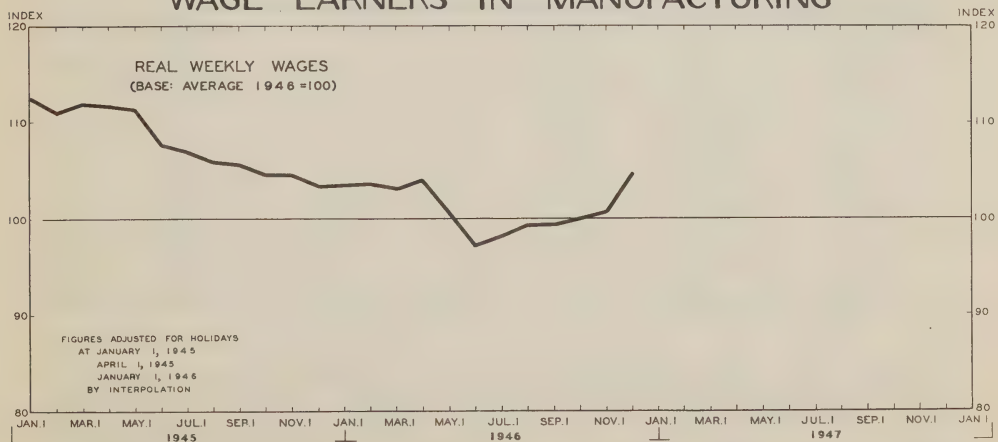
# LONG-TERM TREND OF REAL WAGES IN CANADA FOR WAGE EARNERS IN MANUFACTURING



SOURCE: DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR CHART M.2-M.1

# POST-WAR TREND OF REAL WAGES IN CANADA FOR WAGE EARNERS IN MANUFACTURING



SOURCE: DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR CHART M.2-M.2





changes in the average unit prices of these consumer goods and services.

The cost-of-living index<sup>2</sup>, therefore, measures the change in the retail prices of a "fixed basket of goods". It is by means of this index that average weekly wages can be adjusted to allow for changes in the purchasing power of money. When such adjustment is made, an index of "real" wages is obtained.

### The Post-war Trend of Real Wages

Beginning in the spring of 1946, the purchasing power of the wage-earner's dollar was forced steadily lower by a decided rise in the Canadian cost-of-living. As the number of dollars in the weekly pay envelope diminished, therefore, the amount which each dollar would buy also decreased. This is shown in the trend of real wages as depicted in Table I.

Following V-E day, there was a steady decline in real weekly wages which continued throughout the rest of 1945. A slight rise occurred in the spring of 1946, but during the summer, when industrial disputes were at a maximum, a sharp drop took place. In the fall of 1946, a moderate recovery occurred which gained momentum in early 1947. But whereas money wages at December 1, 1946, were higher than either the May 1 or June 1, 1945 level, real weekly wages at December 1, 1946, were 94 or 97 per cent respectively of their levels at May 1 and June 1, 1945.

Table I—The Post-War Trend of Wages and Hours Worked for Wage Earners in Manufacturing Industries in Canada

(Source: Hours Worked, and Hourly and Weekly Wages, D.B.S.; Real Wages, Computed by Research and Statistics)

Date	Average Hours Worked Per Week	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Wages	Average Real Weekly Wages	Index of Average Real Weekly Wages
<u>Week preceding:</u>	No.	¢	\$	\$	Av. 1946=100
June 1, 1945.....	45.5	70.5	32.08	32.08	111.5
Aug. 1, 1945.....	44.3	69.5	30.79	30.40	105.7
Oct. 1, 1945.....	44.7	67.8	30.31	30.10	104.7
Dec. 1, 1945.....	44.8	67.0	30.02	29.77	103.5
Feb. 1, 1946.....	44.1	68.1	30.03	29.83	103.7
Apr. 1, 1946.....	44.4	68.4	30.37	29.94	104.1
June 1, 1946.....	42.0	69.1	29.02	27.95	97.2
Aug. 1, 1946.....	43.0	70.0	30.10	28.53	99.2
Oct. 1, 1946.....	42.9	71.4	30.63	28.76	100.0
Dec. 1, 1946.....	43.2	74.5	32.18	30.14	104.8

<sup>2</sup>For criticisms and examinations of cost-of-living indices see Dominion Bureau of Statistics, "Cost-of-Living Quiz", and Appendix - Prices and Price Indexes, January, 1945. "The Dominion Bureau of Statistics Cost-of Living Index"; United States Office of Economic Stabilization, Report of the President's Committee on the Cost of Living, 1945; and Melville Ulmer, "On the economic theory of cost of living index numbers", Journal of the American Statistical Association, December, 1946.

Since the period of time which has been selected for study--from the end of the war in Europe to the present--shows only a small part of the long-run trend of real wages, no estimate of the meaning of the post-war decline can be made by studying just this isolated section of the trend.

### The Long-run Trend of Real Wages

There are no statistics available on average weekly wages in manufacturing which will continuously cover the pre-war, wartime and post-war periods. The only indication of changes in average wages during these three periods is the series on average yearly wages. The earliest available figure is that for 1917. These figures are presented in Table II.

Table II—The Trend of Yearly Earnings of Wage Earners  
in Manufacturing in Canada, 1917-1946

(Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics, and Research and Statistics,  
Department of Labour)

Y e a r	Average Yearly Earnings	Index Numbers (1935-39 = 100)	
		Average Yearly Earnings	Real Average Yearly Earnings
	\$		
1917.....	762	81.7	79.8
1921.....	996	106.8	82.2
1925.....	967	103.7	86.6
1929.....	1,042	111.8	91.9
1933.....	777	83.3	88.2
1937.....	965	103.5	102.3
1939.....	975	104.6	103.1
1940.....	1,084	116.3	110.1
1941.....	1,220	130.8	117.1
1942.....	1,383	148.3	126.7
1943.....	1,525	163.6	138.2
1944.....	1,564	167.7	141.0
1945.....	1,569★	168.3★	140.8★
1946.....	1,526★	163.7★	132.4★

★ Yearly earnings for 1945 and 1946 have been estimated.

Real average yearly wages show a general upward trend from 1917 to 1939, in spite of the impact of the depression in the Thirties. Over the 22 years, there was an average increase of 1.2 per cent a year.



An index of real average yearly wages (average 1935-39 = 100) reveals a rise from 79.8 in 1917 to 82.2 in 1921 and to 93.4 in 1931. The index fell during the depression years to a low of 88.3 in 1933, and then rose steadily to 103.1 in 1939.

This long-term rise in real wages is significant of an expanding economy. Increased utilization of resources and increased productive efficiency contributed to greater production which was distributed throughout the economy by greater payments to capital and management, greater payments to labour, and by lower prices to consumers.

The war, with the accompanying abnormal rate of utilization of the nation's resources and the tremendous growth in capital equipment, altered this long-run trend.

After 1939, therefore, real average yearly wages shot up to all-time heights; the aforementioned index reached a peak of 141.0 in 1944. During these war years, the average increase was 6.5 per cent a year. Complete information on yearly wages is not yet available for 1945 and 1946. On the basis of the data at hand, however, it is possible to estimate that 1945 saw very little change in the level of real average yearly wages in manufacturing. The estimated index for 1945 was 140.8, only slightly below that for 1944.

As mentioned earlier, 1946 saw a fairly sharp drop in real average weekly wages and therefore in real average yearly wages. It is estimated that there was a decline in the latter of about 6 per cent with the index falling to 132.5 in 1946.

A straight continuation of the 1917-1939 trend would have established a 1945 index of 110.2, a 1946 index of 111.4, and an index for 1950 of 116.4. The return to a post-war level in line with the pre-war trend would, therefore, obviously necessitate a steep drop in real wages over the next few years. The tremendous changes wrought on the Canadian economy by the war obviate, in all likelihood, any return to pre-war conditions. Movements in real wages will likely continue at a considerably higher level than that which the pre-war trend would have established.

The drop in real weekly wages throughout the latter part of 1945 and most of 1946, together with the recovery movement in the last months of 1946, are the preliminary fluctuations in the establishment of the post-war trend. It is probable that 1947 will see a rise in real weekly wages, effected through an increase in money wages, or a decline in the cost of living, or through a combination of both.

But the post-war trend of real wages cannot yet be described in any definitive manner. We can say, however, that there is no evidence that would indicate other than a continuation of the long-run rise in real wages, a rise which will take place on a new level from that which characterized the pre-war years.

In addition to the prices which he pays for consumer goods and services, the purchasing power of the wage earner's income is also affected by the income tax which he must pay. As we all know, this factor was of unusual importance during the war years.

### The Effect of Income Tax Rates during the War Years

In 1939, the average yearly income of all wage earners in manufacturing industries was \$975.00. For those wage earners who were single with no dependents, there was an income tax of \$13.50, or 1.4 per cent, on a taxable income of this size. For married wage earners with or without dependents, there was no income tax on earnings of this amount. In fact, there was no income tax for married persons until taxable earnings exceeded \$1,500.00.

By 1946, the tax for single wage earners with a taxable income of \$975.00 had risen to \$71.40, or 7.3 per cent. There was still no tax for married persons at this income level.

The average per capita yearly income of all wage earners in manufacturing had risen to about \$1,526 by 1946. At this income level and with the higher tax rates, almost all groups of wage earners were affected. On taxable earnings of this much, a single wage earner with no dependents paid an income tax of \$214.20, or 14.0 per cent. For married persons, the tax was \$90.72, or 6.0 per cent.

The effect of greater tax rates, therefore, was both sharp and widespread. The tax on average per capita yearly wages in 1939 was 1.4 per cent for a single person; the tax on average yearly wages in 1946 was 14.0 per cent for a single person.

Even allowing for increased tax rates, however, the wage earner with an average income was in a considerably better position in 1946 than in 1939. In 1939, average yearly wages were \$975.00. A single person paid only \$13.50 on a taxable income of this much, leaving \$961.50; for others, there was no tax. By 1946, average yearly wages had risen to \$1,526.00. A single person paid \$214.20 on a taxable income of this much, leaving \$1,311.80. If this residual is adjusted for the increase in the cost of living over this period, a real income of \$1,077.01 remains. Similar figures for married wage earners with no dependents and with two dependents are \$1,178.39 and \$1,235.63 respectively.

By 1946, therefore, the average per capita real income of wage earners in manufacturing had increased considerably from the 1939 level, even when allowance is made for increased taxation rates. For single workers with average incomes, the increase in real income after taking account of taxes was \$102.00; for married wage earners with no dependents and with two dependents, it was \$203.00 and \$261.00 respectively. Had the pre-war trend of real wages continued after 1939 and income tax rates remained the same, real income would have reached \$1,053.00 by 1946, an increase of only \$78.00!

In addition, the 1946 position of wage earners in manufacturing was better in two other respects. The figures on average yearly wages used above refer only to those wage earners who were employed during the respective periods. They do not, therefore, take into consideration the effect of unemployment on the income of all wage earners. Not only, therefore, did the average yearly wage of employed wage earners in manufacturing rise from \$975.00 in 1939 to \$1,526.00 in 1946, but also the average number of wage earners at work increased greatly. During 1939, there was an average of about 533,000 wage earners at work in manufacturing industries. By 1946, this figure had risen to about 820,000. Finally, the prospects are that there will be a drop in income tax rates over the next few years. To the extent that this is true, the real income of all persons will be increased.

## OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The National Employment Service is the official organ of the Canadian government to bring together workers looking for jobs and employers looking for workers. Since employees and employers report largely on a voluntary basis, it cannot be expected that the Employment Service itself presents a complete coverage of the employment field. Reports from employers indicate that less than one-half of hirings are made through this service. The following report on N.E.S. activities, then, presents the labour market activities as channelled through the employment offices and not necessarily the overall employment situation.

### January Activities

Jobless workers reported at employment offices climbed steadily during January, 1947. Christmas activity maintained employment throughout the major part of December, consequently the full brunt of declining seasonal activity in many industries was postponed until January. Continued material shortages, severe weather conditions, scattered labour disputes, and lack of housing prevented absorption of many of the unplaced. The Employment Service, however, reported a marked increase in the registration of non-agricultural jobs during the month with a corresponding rise in placements. Placement activity during January compared favorably with the corresponding period in 1946 and from all appearances employment opportunities in the spring season will be quite extensive. It was interesting to note that the seasonal drop in activity was less severe in the specialized sections, such as these handling the placement of handicapped persons and executive and professional personnel, where the obtaining of employment opportunities is more directly dependent upon personal contact with employers. Placing of veterans has closely followed the trend for total placements. During January 1947, approximately one-quarter of all hirings were among veterans.

Sharp increase in applications for work—The December lull in job registrations was broken in January as average weekly applications for work rose from 31,516 to 40,533. Hundreds of temporary Christmas workers--sales, clerical and post office help--reappeared in the labour market at the beginning of the new year. Agricultural, transportation, and construction workers were seeking off-season employment in steadily increasing numbers. A heavy concentration of the unplaced at the month-end was in the younger age group registered for skilled or semi-skilled work. Seventy-three per cent of those not referred to specific jobs at



January 30 were under 45 years of age as compared with 71 per cent five weeks earlier.

Shortage of jobs continues--Jobs available were relatively scarce in January. Although 16 per cent more vacancies were reported than in the previous month, orders were quickly filled and by the end of January only 72,000 were on file as compared with 89,000 unfilled jobs four weeks earlier. Jobs were confined largely to those created by normal labour turnover or sporadic expansion in employment in contrast to the general downward trend. It is significant, however, that the current level is above that reported one year ago.

The placement problem--Employment offices in January were faced with a mounting registration of applicants while employment opportunities fell to their lowest level. Placement activity during the month, however, improved over the December all-time low, although only 17 per cent of all applicants were placed. Some movement of labour was undertaken but it was relatively little and confined largely to the transfer of men to logging camps, mines and construction projects. Sixteen per cent of all placements were of seven days duration or less--this proportion consisted of trade, service, transportation and post office employment. Average weekly placements during January totalled 14,000.

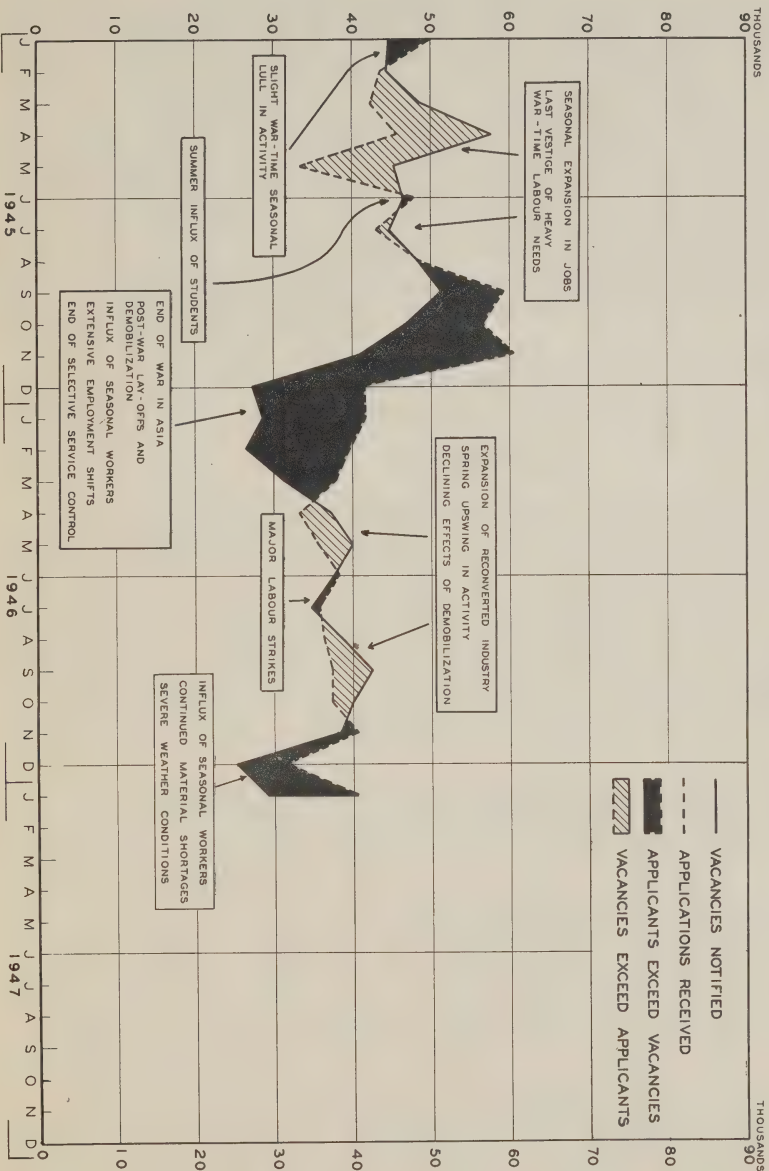
The employment situation at the end of January 1947, was one of a heavy surplus of unskilled job-seekers while available positions had been pared down to those specifying relatively skilled or semi-skilled workers. The absorption of the unskilled will take place only as spring activity increases. Filling the skilled labour needs presents a different problem. Skilled labour is generally not available at employment offices because of several factors: (1) The existing high level of employment is providing year-round work for tradesmen. (2) Hiring of journeymen in many instances is dependent upon union affiliation, consequently unions have become the placing agency. (3) Fewer persons are covered by unemployment insurance in the higher wage bracket therefore there is less incentive to register at employment offices for work.

Veterans--Demobilization now has virtually concluded and except for seasonal unemployment veterans have been, to a large extent, successfully absorbed into the employment stream. Unplaced applicants rose seasonally to reach the 62,000 mark at the end of January. In the light of the 694,000 released since V-J day, however, it can be seen that a marked expansion in employment was made in 1946.

New applications from veterans will continue to appear during the next few years as ex-service personnel complete C.V.T. and university courses. At the end of January 37,000 were in training in C.V.T. schools and over 35,000 in universities.

The two chief problems experienced by the Employment Service in placing ex-servicemen have been finding suitable jobs for World War I veterans and also for the physically handicapped. Publicity campaigns sponsored by government and community organizations, the commendable work of the Corps of Commissionaires, and intensive Employer Relations

# OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ON A COMPARATIVE MONTHLY BASIS



SOURCE: U.I.C. 731-B, DATA EXCLUDE AGRICULTURE AND REPRESENT WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART-M-1-38





work undertaken by special placement officers have been continually broadening the scope of employment opportunities available to these men. From December 15 to January 14, 785 disabled veterans were placed in employment. Men serving in World War I, that is, persons over 45 years of age, received 1,120 appointments during January.

The approach to placement activity is necessarily on an occupational rather than an industrial basis. The most important factor in determining suitable employment for an applicant is consideration of the specific skills he has acquired through his mark, rather than the particular industry in which he has been employed.

However, in weighing the employment outlook, consideration must be given to the job prospects in the industries requiring workers in a specific occupational category. The following brief outline of the truck driving occupation, therefore, has included a short description of the trucking industry.

The lack of up-to-date statistics, by occupation, prevents a detailed description of the current employment situation. The main source of statistics on an occupational basis is the decennial census.

#### Truck Drivers

Over 10,000 now jobless—One result of demobilization has been a steady growth in the number seeking truck driving jobs at employment offices. Many of these have insufficient training to fit them for civilian jobs. At no time during 1946 did applications fall below the 5,000 mark. In response to the seasonal swing, unemployment during the winter months has climbed sharply, and at the latest available date, February 27, the unplaced numbered well over 10,000. Few jobs have been available in this field at employment offices. Since the beginning of 1946 job opportunities have never advanced beyond 750 and currently have shrunk to slightly under 400.

Surplus precipitated by demobilization—On being demobilized, many men have endeavored to utilize their wartime skills in civilian life. However, service training has not always been adequate to qualify veterans for civilian jobs.

The majority of truck drivers were in the army. The categories can be defined as follows: (1) Driver Mechanics—these men are able to drive all types of vehicles, make emergency and running repairs, and advise and direct others in more advanced types of repair work. (2) Drivers I.C.—these workers are able to drive all types of vehicles but have only a limited knowledge of repair work. (3) General Duty—Men, who drive staff cars or transports when necessary and are not responsible for any repair work.

Driver mechanics can qualify immediately for a civilian truck driving job. Drivers I.C. require a brief on-the-job training while general duty drivers have relatively no qualifications. The number of drivers in the army just before V-E day is roughly estimated at 25 per cent of the male personnel. Of the 25, there were 15 skilled (in the first two groups) and 10 unskilled. That is, at March 1, 1945, approximately 123,000 persons were classified as drivers, 49,000 of whom had no special training for the job.

Attraction of the occupation--In addition to offering a civilian counterpart for wartime training, the type of work itself appeals to many young men. It is an outdoor occupation offering some element of skill, excitement and travel to which they had become accustomed in the services.

The most significant advantage is probably the opportunity afforded to undertake trucking business independently. This can be accomplished with relatively little capital outlay. The possibility of success varies according to such factors as the number of truck companies located in the area, conditions of roads and highways, capacity of trucks, railway competition, and services offered.

Disadvantages of truck driving employment--wages--Truck driving has often been referred to as a relatively high-paying occupation. From available statistics this statement appears to be misleading. During the depression, intense competition between trucking companies forced wages in some instances to a level as low as \$6 for a 72-hour week. Following the general war pattern the wage scale underwent a decided upswing. Despite this, wages remained lower than in other occupations requiring approximately the same amount of skill and training. Hourly wage rates of truck drivers in 1944 by region were as follows (in cents per hour): Maritime, 54; Quebec, 53; Ontario, 59; Prairies, 56; Pacific, 74. At the same time the hourly pay for watchmen was: Maritime, 63; Quebec, 59; Ontario, 59; Prairies, 55; Pacific, 67.

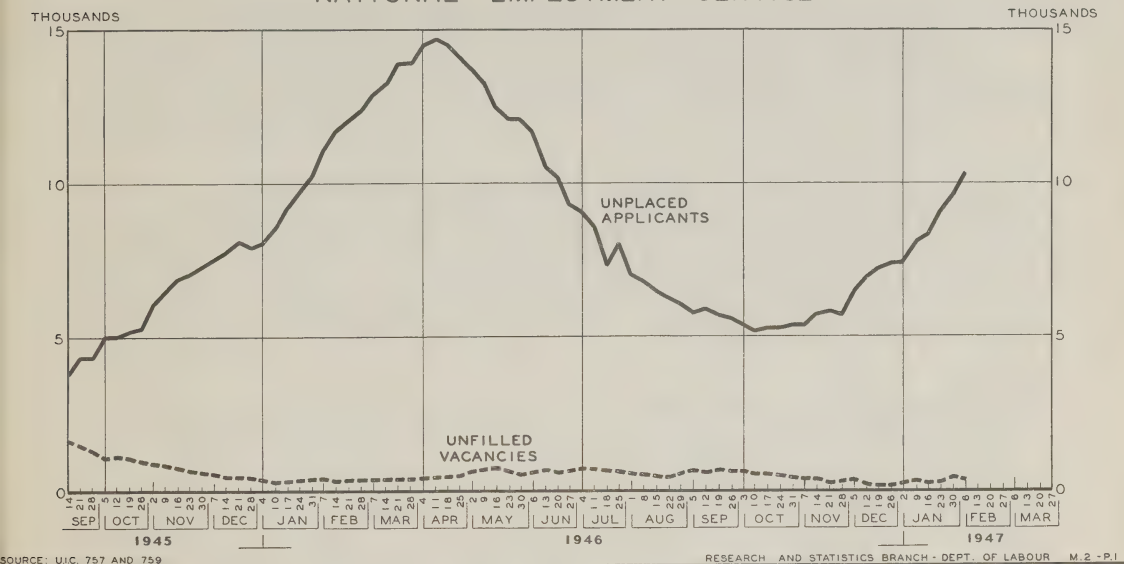
Working conditions--The occupation is open to a considerable number of hazards. Night work, poor roads, and faulty equipment are frequent causes of accidents. The hours of work are often irregular with long hauls usually taken at night. Physical strength is required to help in loading and unloading. A truck driver is often forced to be out in severe weather.

Unemployment--Possibilities of unemployment arises from two sources: (1) Employment in truck driving is seasonal. In 1941, the year representing approximately peak employment, the average length of employment was 40 weeks. That is, almost a 3-month unemployment period. (2) Employment is confined largely to young men, consequently lay-offs of workers over 40 years of age are heavy. At June 30, 1941, 50,000 or 62 per cent of the civilian truck drivers were under 34 years of age, 18,000 or 23 per cent were between 34 and 44 while those over 45 years numbered 13,000 or 15 per cent.

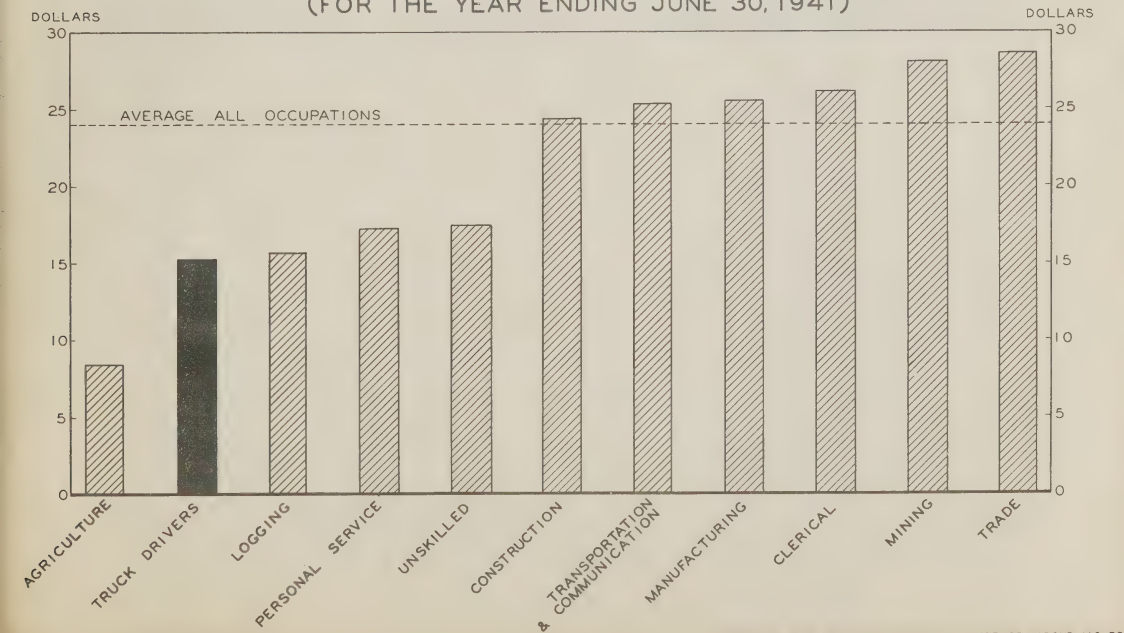
Growth of trucking in Canada--The birth of the trucking industry occurred shortly after World War I. Its development was the outcome of improvement of roads and availability of better equipment. By the beginning of the Thirties, highway trucking had become a serious threat to the railways. Commodities of a semi-valuable, less bulky nature on which railways had made their largest profit were being transported by trucks at a cheaper rate. The trucking industry itself became highly competitive and continuous underbidding took place among the various companies. Between the census years 1931 to 1941 civilian employment of truck drivers rose from 44,000 to 80,000 with a significantly large growth among "own accounts".

# LABOUR DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF TRUCK DRIVERS

AS REPORTED BY  
NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



## EARNINGS OF TRUCK DRIVERS PER WEEK WORKED IN COMPARISON TO EARNINGS IN OTHER MALE OCCUPATIONS (FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1941)







Adverse effect of war controls--Wartime restrictions on gasoline, tires, and production of motor carriers, resulted in a reduction in freight trucking from 1941-44 (latest date for which figures are available). Shortly after V-J day the restrictions were relaxed. The curtailed production of motor carriers and tires during the war years cut into boom expansion in 1946.

Future outlook--By 1947, equipment should be more easily obtained. It is likely that expansion within the industry will be stimulated in the event of an increase in the freight rates. Counterbalancing this, however, is the possibility of a substantial stepping up in gasoline prices as this field of taxation is returned to the provinces. Prospects for expansion are greatest in Quebec and Ontario because of the shorter distances between shipping points, better roads, and a more convenient type of commodity for transport.

Organization--Possibility of improved wage rates and working conditions through union action is relatively small. No separate national union exists for truck drivers. Some organization has taken place under the Trades and Labour Congress in the brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America. The total membership of the complete Brotherhood was about 3,000 in 1945 and included 26 locals. The strength is much less proportionately than that existing in the United States. Within the Canadian union there have been relatively few strikes. The largest one during the past two years was in Brown's Bakery, Toronto, in combination with another union in which 500 men were involved and the work stoppage lasted for approximately two months. The agreement reached set up a check-off system.

There has also been some organization under the Canadian Congress of Labour. Among these is the Truck Owners and Drivers of Cape Breton. A brief work stoppage through strike action involving 35 persons occurred in this union in 1945. The issue was for increased wages and a compromise was reached by raising the hours of work.

Table I--Average Weekly Applications for Employment at N.E.S. offices  
Since January, 1946, Total Veteran and Executive and Professional

		Average Weekly Applications		
		Total	Veterans	E. & P.
January, 1946.....		41,669	11,748	226
February ".....		39,582	11,609	272
March ".....		37,875	12,006	266
April ".....		33,158	10,974	308
May ".....		35,376	11,064	299
June ".....		38,205	10,048	318
July ".....		35,802	10,220	279
August ".....		36,371	10,081	346
September ".....		37,389	9,643	264
October ".....		37,271	10,243	286
November ".....		40,606	10,665	276
December ".....		31,516	8,924	184
January, 1947.....		40,533	10,528.	272

Table II--Average Weekly Vacancies Notified as  
Reported by National Employment Service  
January, 1947

Industry	January 1947	January 1946	Per cent Change
Total.....	29,674	28,880	+ 2.7
Logging.....	4,983	5,192	- 4.0
Mining.....	758	689	+10.0
Manufacturing.....	9,470	9,377	+ 1.0
Construction.....	2,040	1,940	+ 5.2
Transportation and Public Utilities.....	1,866	1,737	+ 7.4
Trade, finance, insurance.....	3,556	3,591	- 1.0
Services.....	6,646	6,053	+ 9.8
Agriculture.....	355	301	+17.9



Table III--Average Weekly Placements Made by N.E.S. Offices, since January 1946, Total, Veteran, and Executive and Professional

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Date		Placements Per Week		
		Total	Veterans	E. & P.
January, 1946.....		13,076	4,393	57
February ".....		12,627	4,208	61
March ".....		14,269	4,793	63
April ".....		16,402	5,951	58
May ".....		18,350	6,440	62
June ".....		17,925	5,519	58
July ".....		17,983	5,369	41
August ".....		17,548	5,007	33
September ".....		18,108	4,691	44
October ".....		18,598	5,183	59
November ".....		17,991	4,718	57
December ".....		12,370	3,463	43
January, 1947.....		14,284	3,816	64

Table IV--Total Unreferred Applicants, by Age Group, and By Occupation, as at January 30, 1947

(Source: Forms UIC 757-759)

Occupations	Age Groups				
	Total	Under 20	20-44	45-64	Over 65
Total.....	185,014	21,543	112,320	35,514	15,637
Professional and Managerial Workers.....	5,473	149	3,819	1,194	311
Clerical Workers.....	19,260	2,198	13,645	2,574	843
Sales Workers.....	11,256	1,959	7,737	1,296	264
Service Workers.....	15,521	1,453	6,278	4,707	3,083
Farm hands and Fishermen...	4,419	476	3,166	653	124
Skilled and semi-skilled...	60,593	4,068	41,294	11,858	3,373
Unskilled labour.....	68,492	11,240	36,381	13,232	7,639



## EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES

### COAL MINING

### FISHING

### SHIPBUILDING AND REPAIRING

Currently, the most significant feature of the Canadian Labour scene is the "lull" before a possible recurrence of summer industrial unrest. Union policy for 1947 will be determined by a series of fast-moving political and economic events which have altered labour's bargaining position. The crisis period in the wage-price issue is approaching as prices climb to a peak as the policy of decontrol continues. The political undertones in labour-management relations have become more dominant as the Communist issue is forced into the open, reflecting world-wide political atmosphere presently focussed on the Moscow Conference.

Two important strikes, both in primary Canadian industries and both located on the East Coast, illustrate important aspects of these trends. In the coal mining strike, the present picture is one of deadlock between labour and management on the wage issue. Typifying the spread of unionization in Canadian industry, the recent Nova Scotia fishermen's strike highlights the complicating factor of a left-wing union executive whose strike motives are suspect by the employers.

The third industry analysed this month represents a rather different aspect of the changing pattern of Canadian industrial activity. This is the shipbuilding industry, a "war industry" struggling to maintain a healthy peace-time position in a more competitive world market. A secondary feature here is that the industry provides visible evidence of government policy on foreign credits translated into terms of actual employment. Curiously, the most depressed section of this industry is also in the Maritimes.

#### THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY<sup>1</sup>

##### 1. The Strike in the Maritimes (2)

Strike focuses attention on industry's problems-The current strike of some 13,000 Maritime coal miners, coming as it did simultaneously with the publishing of the Report of the Royal Commission on Coal, has

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(1) The most recent source of information on the coal mining industry is the "Carroll Report", the findings and recommendations of the Royal Commission on Coal. This Report contains a more detailed study of many of the points touched on in the following analysis.

(2) For a discussion of external factors affecting this strike see Section "Manpower Picture", p.



served to bring into prominence many of the long term problems of the industry. Coal mining in Canada, as in many other countries, has become the "sick man" of the economy, and the Maritimes, the locale of the strike, is the major sore spot in the Canadian employment picture. The importance of coal, a basic industrial material, has intensified the significance of the strike.

The original basis of strike, wage increases, has become somewhat overshadowed by the larger issues which revolve around it, such as subsidies, productivity, and increased mechanization.

Forty-cent gap main stumbling block--The strikers, through their union, The United Mine Workers (C.C.L.), originally asked for a \$2.50 per day wage increase. This demand was later scaled down to \$1.40 per day, plus provisions for a welfare fund and a contributory pension scheme.

The operators, most of the men are employed by the Dominion Coal Co., offered a \$1.00 per day raise contingent on an increase in productivity. This offer was not acceptable to the union.

The Hon. Mr. Justice Carroll, mediator in the strike found that the miners' request for \$1.40 per day increase was justified. It was indicated that the company was unable to pay more than \$1.00 per day extra. The main problem, therefore, was how to bridge this forty-cent gap.

Possible solutions to deadlock--The two most feasible solutions would appear to be either 1) additional subsidies, which the federal government has so far refused to consider or 2) an increase in price which Carroll says "would sound the death knell of the industry", due to the lower price of imported American coal.

Royal Commission recommendations--A section of the majority recommendations of the Royal Commission on Coal is pertinent to this point. The report states in part "..... operators throughout Canada should not be encouraged to rely on subventions if improved methods of production will lower costs ..... The principal operators in Nova Scotia propose extended mechanization and predict that in many mines it will raise productivity above the pre-war level. The proposed improvements are overdue." And further on, "It is not generally practical to fix subvention aid by statute because the assistance must vary from time to time with changes in the competitive situation. It is exceedingly important that any aid extended should be attended by scrutiny of the efficiency of operations". (2)

Productivity and the strike--One of the more important issues in the present strike is the question of productivity. In Nova Scotia, output in net tons per man day dropped from 2.34 in 1939 to 1.58 in 1945.

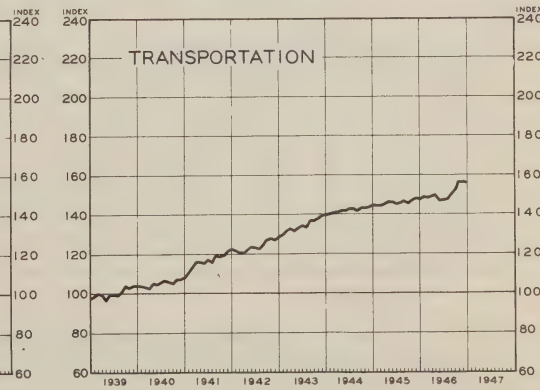
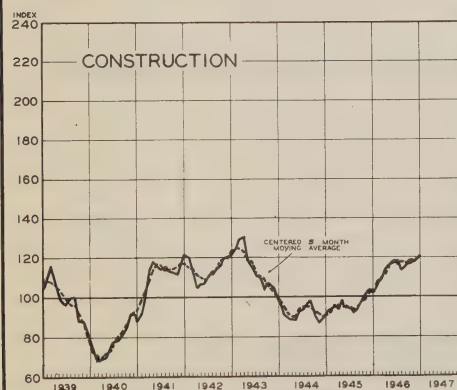
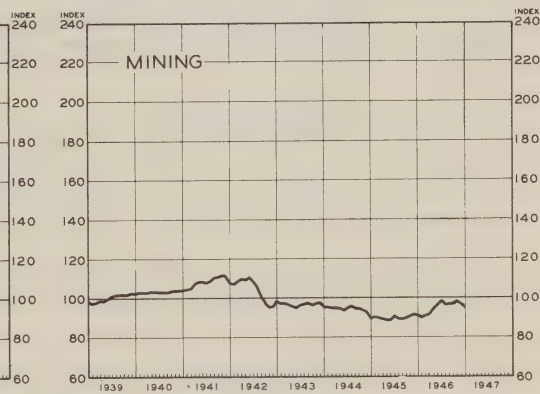
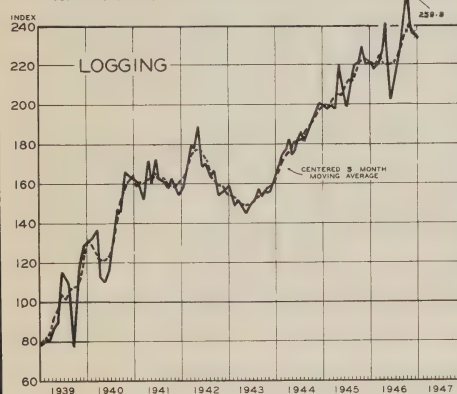
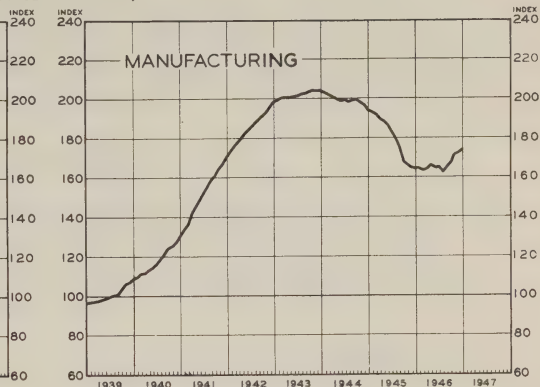
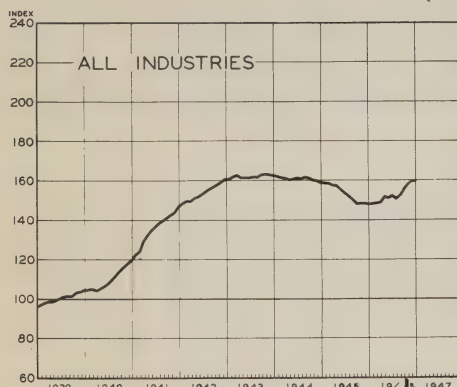
Ideally, productivity may be defined as total output in relation to total input. With respect to the figures quoted above, output is related to only one input factor, namely labour. This type of measure is adequate if labour is representative of all input factors. In addition, figures on physical output per man-hour or man-day should not be interpreted to imply that labour is the sole variable. Many other conditions

# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

## SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

### FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)







and factors may determine changes in output per man-hour. Some of these are the efficiency of management, the extent of mechanization, the nature and location of the raw materials, the extent to which capacity operation is achieved and a host of other less tangible factors. As figures on output per man-hour do not isolate any of these factors nor evaluate their relative importance, it is not wise to use them in collective bargaining. For that purpose, more intensive studies of productivity are necessary, probably at the case study level.

## 2. Employment

Employment decline during December--Reported employment in the coal mining industry at January 1, 1947, before the strike started, was 24,600. This was a drop of 2,300 as compared to the previous month. It seems likely that the holiday season was the major reason for this decline as many of the miners had not reported back to work at the date of these statistics.

There has been little seasonal fluctuation in employment in the coal mining industry since 1939. Before the war, a drop of from 10 - 15 per cent was usual during the summer months. During 1946, the index of reported employment (1926 = 100) ranged from a low of 92.1 at August 1 to a high of 97.2 at December 1.

Continued employment stability forecast for 1947--Only a very slight employment increase is expected in this industry during the first six months of 1947. Reports received from eight of the larger firms--the bulk of the employment in this industry is concentrated in the hands of a few large employers--indicate that a rise of not more than two per cent can be looked for.

A feature of coal mining employment is the constant level which has been maintained over the long term period. This trend can be seen in Table I.

Table I--Reported Employment in the Canadian Coal Mining Industry for Selected Years 1926-47

(Source: Employment Statistics Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Date	1926	1933	1940	1945	1946
January 1 .....	27,020	24,610	25,767	25,134	26,535
April 1 .....	23,579	22,278	24,638	26,137	26,464
July 1 .....	24,588	20,561	23,562	25,255	25,882
October 1 .....	26,446	24,001	25,582	24,933	25,858

Jobs openings mainly for skilled miners--Labour demand in the coal mining industry at present is generally for certificated miners. (3) Jobs openings reported to at National Employment Service offices at February 13, 1947 numbered 600, about 50 per cent of the total last year at the

(3) "In Nova Scotia, qualifications for a miner's Certificate of Competency now require six months intensive apprenticeship training or eighteen months practical experience underground".

Report of the Royal Commission on Coal p. 312.

same time. The advent of the strike will greatly reduce this figure of course.

Table II shows unfilled vacancies by region with the comparable figures for 1946. These are the orders placed with local National Employment Service Offices and probably do not represent total labour demand in coal mining. The industry is capable of absorbing a much larger number of certificated miners, were they available.

Table II--Unfilled Vacancies in the Canadian Coal Mining Industry  
by Region For Selected Dates 1946-1947

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

Date		Canada	Maritimes	Prairies	Pacific
<u>1947</u>					
February	13 .....	610	142	230	238
February	6 .....	629	151	241	237
January	30 .....	630	149	244	237
January	23 .....	609	164	210	235
January	16 .....	618	167	203	248
<u>1946</u>					
February	14 .....	1,246	414	474	358
February	7 .....	1,318	443	525	350
January	31 .....	1,265	464	521	280
January	24 .....	1,258	471	498	289
January	17 .....	1,268	471	509	288

Long term employment opportunities--Over the long term period, presupposing relative economic stability, there should be employment opportunities for several thousand men in this industry.

The Royal Commission Report in a short analysis of the changing composition of the labour force, points out that the proportion of older men has been constantly increasing. In 1941, the percentage of men over 45 years of age was 37 in Nova Scotia and 46 in Alberta. In 1931, the comparable figures were 29 and 28 per cent respectively. Even when allowance is made for the dislocation resulting from the war this is an extremely high ratio.

Immigration and young trainees have been the two main sources of recruitment in the past. Lately the supply of new workers from both these sources has been inadequate. There has been a marked reluctance on the part of young men to enter the coal mines to do face work. It has been suggested that increased mechanization might serve to make mine work more attractive. This problem of labour supply may be alleviated by relaxed immigration quotas in the near future.

### 3. Earnings

Upward movement of earnings--During the last half of 1946, hourly earnings in coal mining rose steadily to reach a peak of \$1.01 at December 1. This was the highest figure for any industry for which statistics are available at that date.

Weekly earnings in the industry, while above average, are still not exceptionally high due to the length of the work-week. The December 1 figure for per capita weekly earnings was \$40.03. Railway workers received the highest weekly earnings at this date--\$49.07, while hotel and restaurant employees the lowest, \$21.68.

Table III--Average Weekly Hours, Average Hourly Earnings and Average Weekly Earnings in Canadian Coal Mining with Comparison with United States 1946

(Source: Employment Statistics Branch D.B.S., and Bureau of Labour Statistics, U.S. Department of Labour)

Date	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hours per Week
Canada			
<u>1946</u>	\$	\$	
August .....	95.7	38.48	38.9
September .....	95.6	38.76	39.8
October .....	95.8	39.75	40.9
November .....	98.7	39.71	39.6
December .....	100.9	40.03	39.2
United States (Bituminous mines only)			
August .....	146.2	60.65	42.8
September .....	148.0	60.67	41.8
October .....	145.9	61.82	42.9

### THE FISHING INDUSTRY

Nova Scotia strikers gain nothing--The strike of some 500 deep-sea fishermen in the Maritimes ended March 22 with the men returning to work under the same terms as when they quit.

The strike had begun December 30 after negotiations broke down over the union's demands for an increased percentage of the proceeds of the catch--a 60-40 "lay" instead of the previous 50-50 arrangement. The union concerned was the Canadian Fishermen's and Fishhandlers' Union (T.L.C.)

Several ship owners in the Lunenburg fleet were involved, the largest being National Sea Products Ltd. Besides the actual strikers, an estimated 1,000 employees of fish processing plants were off work.



Little basis for negotiation--Complete difference of opinion between the two parties existed in this strike and no attempt was made at government conciliation. The owners refused to recognize the union as bargaining agent for the men. The fishermen refused to return to work. On the basis of a decision given by the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia that the crews of three ships were "partners" not "employees", the provincial government said that the dispute was outside any existing law or regulation and did not intervene.

Both sides gave considerable publicity to their arguments. The unions stressed the arduous working conditions connected with fishing and the low annual earnings over the long term period. The representatives of the management pointed out the illegality of and the Communist influence in the strike.

Importance of the strike--In actual numbers, the body of strikers was not large. The 500 men represent only about 5 per cent of the 10,800 persons in Nova Scotia who were listed as fishermen in the 1941 census. In Canada as a whole, there were 34,300 registered as fishermen at that date.

The importance of the strike lies rather in its repercussions on the already shaky economic structure of the Maritimes fishing industry. Besides the loss of an estimated 8 million pounds of fish landed, there is the greater danger of the loss of markets built up during the war due to the present position of over-supply of the market and falling prices. From the union point of view, the results of the strike were considered as a serious setback to their efforts to achieve complete unionization of the industry and to consolidate their position as bargaining agent.

## THE SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY

Employment in the Canadian shipbuilding industry dropped 10 per cent during 1946. A continuation of this gradual downtrend can be expected in 1947.

The current level of employment (20,000) is exceptionally high for peace time--in 1939 the industry's labour force numbered only slightly more than 2,000. The basis for this level of activity is mainly in foreign orders, now well over \$100 millions in value, but the yards are also working on a considerable amount of domestic construction and repair. Among the more important foreign countries placing orders are France, the Netherlands, Brazil and China. Most of these orders are financed by a Canadian government company, the Commercial Credit Corporation.

### 1. Wartime Growth

The present position of the industry can be seen in better perspective through a study of its pre-war position and its wartime expansion. Final statistics are available up to 1944 only, but estimates of employment from 1945 to the present indicate that the labour force was cut in half following V-J day and has continued to

decline slowly since that date. The principal statistics shown below indicate these trends for various economic factors within the industry.

Table I—Principal Statistics on the Canadian Shipbuilding Industry, for Selected Years 1933 to 1944

(Source: Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics).

Date	No. of Plants	Average No. Employees	Capital Employed	Salaries & Wages	Gross Value of Production
			\$	\$	\$
1933	38	2,254	32,622,232	2,644,396	4,521,867
1935	39	2,967	28,157,880	3,302,386	7,124,474
1937	40	3,502	29,163,717	4,411,910	10,360,686
1939	43	3,491	30,054,838	4,950,179	11,234,967
1940	47	9,707	48,565,107	15,753,467	44,690,937
1941	65	21,240	86,873,540	32,341,826	109,326,883
1942	79	50,132	125,048,259	92,188,814	242,138,127
1943	87	75,847	241,992,825	153,595,336	376,560,974
1944	94	67,076	-	138,967,246	329,299,643

## 2. Material Shortages

Uncertainties in the flow of supplies, especially of steel plates, shapes and pipes, have not only greatly reduced production during the past few months but have also hindered the procuring of new contracts. Delivery of manufactured components such as electric generators, steering engines, and cargo winches, has also been spotty.

Indications are that the most critical period of material shortages is over. Steel production has been steadily rising (Table II) and recent reports from several of the major yards indicate steadier deliveries. A large Quebec concern, reporting as of the first of March, states, "..... a good percentage of steel is arriving". In December, the same company had said, "..... Steel is coming in very slowly".

Pockets of extreme material shortage still exist, however. A second major company from the same province reports, "We still have the same contracts to fill and the same uncertainties as regards delivery of materials. The opening of navigation may cause an increase in the percentage of man-hours on repairs".

Table II--Production of Steel Ingots for Selected Months, 1946 - 1947

(Source: Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics).

Date	1946	1947
	(in tons)	(in tons)
January .....	236,607	243,557
February .....	226,273	223,145
April .....	239,463	-
July .....	130,574	-
October .....	117,669	-
November .....	216,924	-
December .....	231,317	-

### 3. Labour Supply

In general, it can be said that this industry now has an adequate labour force. Certain categories of highly skilled men are in short supply. For example, one B.C. firm, which is planning to triple its employment, has been allowed to bring in a number of technical men from the United Kingdom-ship and marine engine designers, and draughtsmen.

Instability of employment is more or less a permanent feature of shipyard work. This has been especially apparent recently, as large orders have been completed and the company is forced to make large scale lay-offs until new orders are obtained. Heavy labour turnover among unskilled labourers intrudes a further disturbing element into the labour picture.

Table III shows the trend of reported employment in steel shipbuilding and repairing since 1939.

Table III--Reported Employment in the Steel Shipbuilding and Repairing Industry, 1939 to 1947

(Source: Employment Statistics Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Date	1939	1941	1943	1945	1946	1947
January 1	2,083	11,967	63,771	57,869	31,117	21,705
April 1	2,448	16,548	73,093	63,477	27,652	-
July 1	2,293	20,036	82,202	63,557	25,486	-
October 1	2,727	23,707	87,768	44,457	23,754	-



#### 4. Earnings and Hours

Weekly earnings in shipyards now are lower than they were during the war. The average worker makes slightly less than \$40. per week. (see Table IV). A wartime peak of \$42.23 was reached at November 1, 1944. A decline in hours, especially overtime, was no doubt the main reason for this drop as it seems probable that wage rates have risen.

This average compares favourably with those of other industries. At December 1, 1946, Dominion Bureau of Statistics data show that the average weekly earnings in steel shipbuilding and repairing were \$38.85; in all manufacturing \$34.48; in automobiles and parts \$41.73; in all iron and steel products \$39.17. The January 1 figures are lower than the yearly average due to the holiday season.

Table IV—Earnings and Hours in Steel Shipbuilding and Repairing 1946-7

(Source: Employment Statistics Br., Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Date	Per Capita Weekly Earnings	Average Hours per Week
<u>1946</u>	\$	
January 1 .....	33.11	36.4
April 1 .....	38.75	44.6
July 1 .....	37.39	42.2
October 1 .....	37.89	43.6
<u>1947</u>		
January 1 .....	34.48	-

Future prospects—Prospects for the shipbuilding industry for 1947 are relatively good. This year's volume of business is expected to fall short of the 1946 mark, but will still remain far above the average peace-time year.

Employment forecasts have been received by the Department of Labour from eleven of the principal shipbuilding and repairing establishments in all parts of Canada, who employ over fifty per cent of the industry's work force. These indicate that, despite a seasonal upswing after April 1, employment in shipbuilding at July 1 will be about 10 per cent below July 1, 1946.

The material shortage situation, the main obstacle to production in the past year, will be less critical. Sufficient orders are on hand to provide work for the whole year for most of the industry. But certain areas, where the yards have been unable to obtain contracts, may suffer. At present, at least four companies in the Maritimes are having trouble obtaining orders. In general, however, the immediate future for this industry looks encouraging.



## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following regional analysis deals with the current labour market situation in each of the five regions, Maritime, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie and Pacific.

It should be clearly understood that unplaced applicants cannot be taken as a measure of unemployment. Therefore, to avoid any possible misinterpretation we wish to emphasize that any analysis of the growth or decline of unplaced applicants refers only to the number of workers registered with National Employment Service offices as seeking work. The terms "unplaced applicants" and "unemployment", then, will in no sense be used synonymously.

### Maritime Region

Overall situation little changed from January—The February labour market in the Maritimes presents few changes from January. The volume of unplaced applicants has been fairly constant, the increase of 1,300 occurring in the first half of the month. In the last two weeks of February the number of registered job seekers has remained fairly constant and unfilled vacancies have declined.

The number of unplaced applicants shows an increase of 25 per cent over the level at the end of February, 1946. The sharp post-war rise in registered job seekers took place to a large extent in the first quarter of 1946 rather than in the last quarter of 1945, and reached a peak in mid-April of 1946. From that height there was never any return to the January 1946 level, even at the low point of October 1946. Consequently, the peak of the seasonal growth in the number of unplaced applicants this winter is above that of one year ago.

Little increase in labour demand expected for two months—The expansion of seasonal employment in the late spring and summer will alleviate the load of unemployment, but there is little present expectation of a basic improvement in labour demand. With reference to unplaced applicants the Regional Employment Officer remarks, "It is not expected that employment opportunities will be available....(for most of the unplaced applicants) for two months or more. Then it is expected that jobs, not necessarily in their registered occupations, will be available for the majority."



Marked slowdown in logging—Logging operations have declined sharply during the month. Too much snow in northern New Brunswick has largely halted cutting. The lumber cut is above that of the 1945-46 season. Hauling in most of this area is about completed, and many of the men have returned home until driving operations begin. In Nova Scotia, although the cut is almost over, many of the logs cannot be brought into the yards because of the lack of snow. Hauling has been similarly hampered.

Workers released from logging entering alternative employment—The men released from the lumber camps are not swelling the number of unplaced applicants to any great extent because the majority of the woodsmen are farmers and farm workers who cut fire wood and do other casual jobs on the farms until driving operations begin.

Fishing industry shackled by strike and severe weather—The fishing strike continues. No settlement is yet indicated. Further severe storms have cut down the supply of fish coming to the processing plants. Lay offs are common. Halifax reports that processing plants are operating at about 25 per cent of capacity and employment in the plants is of a periodic nature depending wholly on the catches landed by shore fishermen.

Coal miner's strike clouds outlook—With the onset of the strike coal mining operation in the Maritimes ceased February 15, except for a number of "bootleg" pits which are being operated on a small scale by various individuals. There is no indication as to when a settlement might be reached, but the possibilities of an early settlement are remote at the present time.

Strike repercussions start to appear—Cape Breton and the New Glasgow area are already experiencing the indirect effects of the coal strike. The remainder of the region has not yet been affected to any extent. In New Glasgow dwindling coal supplies not only hinder present production in manufacturing, but also offer a threat to future production. The Eastern Car Company is unable to close certain contracts which are pending because of the uncertainty of its ability to fulfil them. Retail trade in both areas has suffered noticeably.

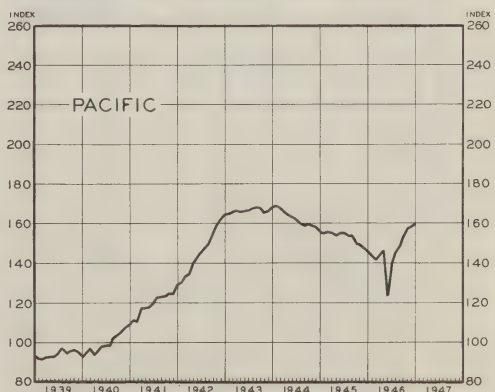
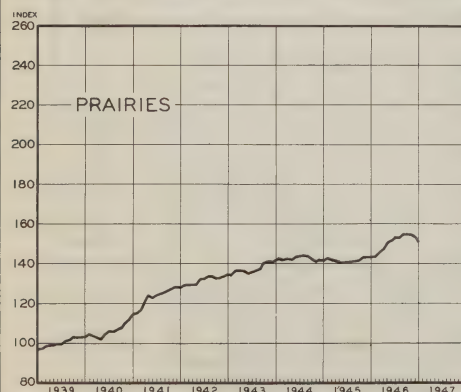
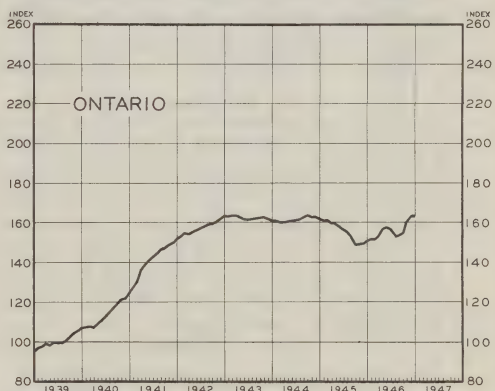
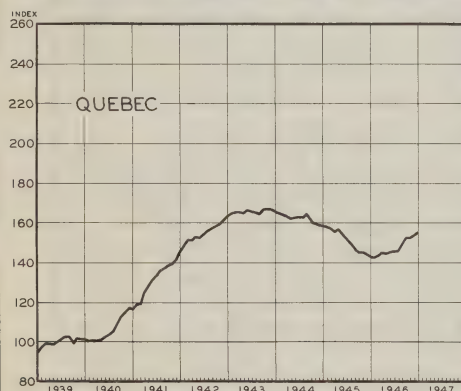
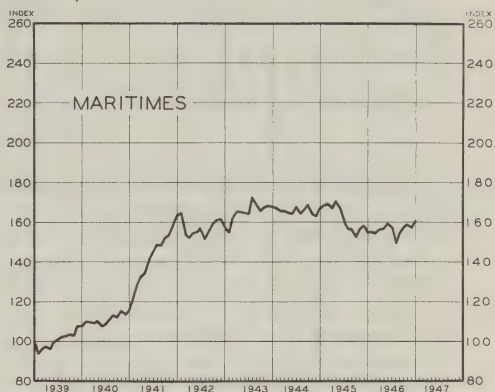
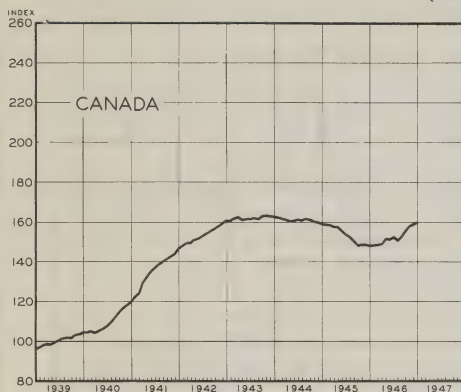
Construction boom expected—The only bright spot in the labour picture is the construction industry. Plans for this year's building program indicate a boom season. Public works form a large part of the proposed construction. It is expected that primary and secondary highway

# REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

FROM 1939 TO 1947

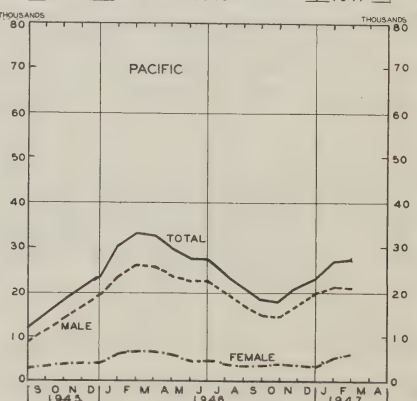
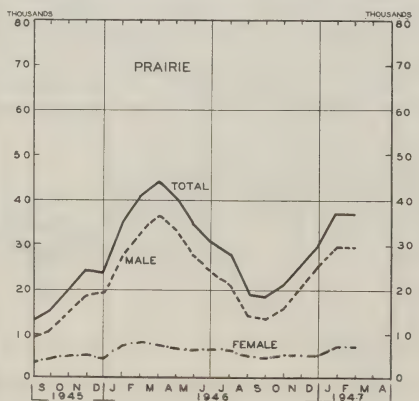
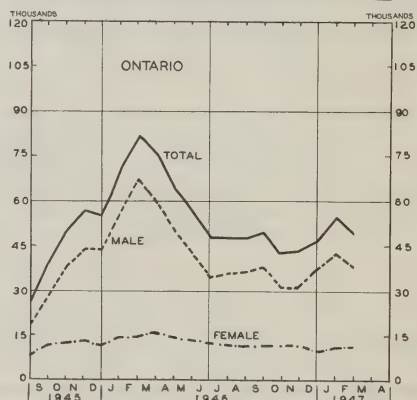
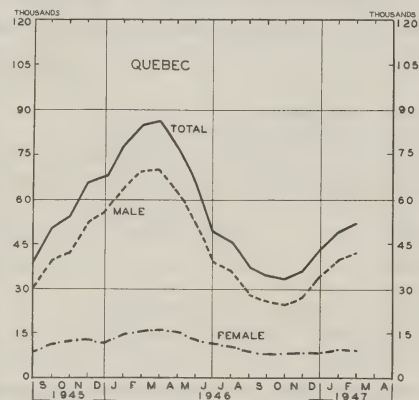
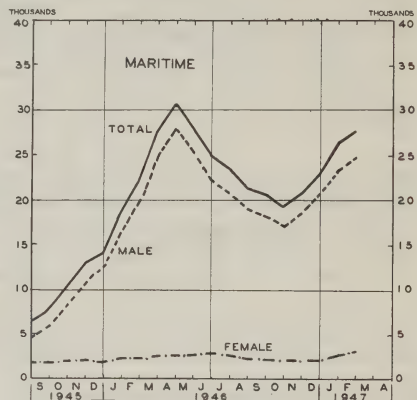
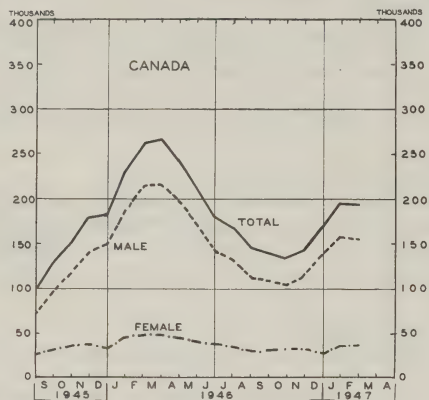
(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)



# REGIONAL UNPLACED APPLICANTS

AS REPORTED BY THE

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE





construction programs will absorb a considerable number of the unskilled unplaced in the areas where the work is being performed.

#### Halifax

The combined effects of a much lower level of port activity than was expected, the fishing strike, and a considerable slump in construction activity, have caused the number of unplaced applicants to mount to increasingly serious proportions.

In 1943-44 the waterfront force numbered 3,200 as compared to the 1,500 men now employed. Port activity would be higher if grain shipments were not tied-up by the current shortage of box cars. When the box car shortage is straightened out, however, Halifax will be the outlet for a large share of wheat shipments to England.

The lay-off of some 1,600 civilian employees from H.M.C. Dockyard will bite deeply into manufacturing employment. The shipbuilding and repairing industry provided one of the largest sources of labour for skilled and unskilled men--representing 50 per cent of total manufacturing employment. The current lay-off, slated for March 31, will cause an 18 per cent reduction in manufacturing employment. Some of these men may secure work elsewhere, but the outlook for the majority is gloomy. In addition, army and air force establishments will soon lay-off some 500 civilian employees.

For the first time in seven years there has been a sharp drop in employment among skilled tradesmen, although the bulk of unplaced applicants is still centered in the "white collar" group, the construction trades, and in the unskilled labour groups.

An effort is being made by the city council to have the shipyard lay-off postponed until May 1, as by that time it is felt that a housing program and civic work projects will supply work for 1,500 to 2,000 men. Both unskilled labour and skilled and semi-skilled construction labour will be employed, but there is much less chance of work for the many clerical, service, and professional workers on file.

#### New Glasgow-Pictou

The 1,600 miners now on strike represent about 45 per cent of total employment in the New Glasgow-Pictou area. Numerically, coal mining employment is roughly equal to total manufacturing employment. If the coal strike is prolonged, and as yet there is no sign of a settlement, the adverse effects on manufacturing which are already being felt will be accentuated.

The forge department of the Trenton Steel Works is practically closed because of lack of coal. Maritime Steel and Foundries Limited have closed the foundry and cleaning room because of lack of power. Dwindling coal supplies threaten to create a power shortage which would paralyze all industrial activity in the area. The Eastern Car Company has only two weeks supply of coal on hand.

Present demand for male workers consists almost entirely of orders for experienced woodsmen. For female labour, domestic positions are almost the only jobs available. A sizable number of men, willing to leave this locality, are accepting work in gold mines in Quebec and

Ontario. However, this movement of labour has little effect on the overall unemployment situation because of the crippling effects of the coal strike.

### Sydney

At the moment the seriousness of the employment situation in this area is overshadowed by the coal strike in progress. As yet there is no sign of a settlement of the strike. The mere fact that 12,000 coal miners now are idle is in itself significant of the tremendous importance of the coal mining industry in the economy of this area.

The effects of the coal strike on the steel plant could be averted by importing American coal, but, due to labour affiliations, steel company dock workers may refuse to unload coal boats. All departments in the steel mill are working full time, but coal stocks on hand are sufficient for only three weeks' operations. Since the start of the coal strike retail and wholesale trade have registered a decided decrease in sales.

Of the 5,177 unplaced men at the end of February, 1947, Sydney accounts for 49 per cent, Glace Bay, 17 per cent, Inverness, 12 per cent, Sydney Mines, 11 per cent, North Sydney, 6 per cent, and New Waterford, 5 per cent. Taken on a broad basis, 45 per cent of these men are unskilled, 40 per cent skilled and semi-skilled, and the remaining 15 per cent are mostly "white collar" workers.

A survey conducted by the employment office among all employers in this area shows a net 308 deferred job openings. These jobs are contingent on the availability of supplies when construction activity gets underway in the spring. While the number of these openings, principally in construction, will probably increase to 500, there are 440 skilled construction tradesmen registered as unplaced, thus leaving virtually no demand for the remaining 4,700 male unplaced applicants.

### Saint John

Transportation is in the middle of a peak season, and virtually all manufacturing, with the exception of iron and steel and shipbuilding, have increased employment, from this time last year. Lay-offs during the past year in shipbuilding and iron and steel account for a net deficit of some 500 job openings in manufacturing. Non-manufacturing, on the other hand, increased employment by about 1,050, leaving an overall increase in employment over the year of some 600 workers.

Unplaced applicants show a healthy numerical decrease during January and February, principally because of transportation activity. About 50 per cent of male unplaced applicants are in the skilled and semi-skilled category because nearly all lay-offs after the war occurred in the shipbuilding and iron and steel industries.

The increase in number of unplaced applicants, despite the growth in overall employment, can largely be accounted for by the fact that many outside workers came to this area seeking work from more depressed areas in the Maritimes.

The normal seasonal low in employment in Saint John occurs during the summer, but the seasonal factor was not evident during the war years as every available worker was employed in manufacturing and in "year-around" transportation. Whether this year's seasonal increase in employment in construction, agriculture, and fishing will offset the heavy lay-offs in transportation remains to be seen.

#### Quebec Region

Rate of increase in unplaced applicants slackens—The number of unplaced applicants increased at a much slower rate in February. The rate of increase slackened from 16 per cent in January to 6 per cent during February. It is probable that the first part of March will see the turning point in the uptrend of the number of job seekers registered at N.E.S. offices.

Labour market conditions more optimistic than one year ago—The labour market shows much more strength than it did one year ago. There has been a decrease of 38 per cent in the number of unplaced applicants from the end of February, 1946 to the end of February, 1947, a somewhat larger decline than the 36 per cent decrease between January, 1946 and January, 1947.

Seasonal slowdown in logging—Cutting in the logging industry has been slowed by too much snow in the bush. Hauling has begun and, on the whole, there is sufficient labour available. Vacancies reported to the employment office for men to work in the woods have declined some 40 per cent during the month.

Heavy labour demand expected in mining—The cessation of the three-month Rouyn-Noranda strike in February relieved the tension in the northern mining areas and there are many reports of contemplated expansion of operations. The severe weather during the month has hampered activity. This, together with the strike, deterred any present increase in employment in the mines. However, a heavy demand for experienced and inexperienced men from the mining industry is anticipated when better weather signals increased activity. The problem of obtaining sufficient experienced miners to train the inexperienced men will then appear.

Supply bottlenecks continue—There has been little change in the manufacturing scene during the month. Steel supplies are still falling short of demand.

Box car shortage still a curbing influence—The shortage of box cars is slowing production in food, pulp and paper, and container manufacturing industries, either by preventing adequate supplies of raw materials from reaching the plants, or by necessitating storage until enough cars are available to transport the produced goods to market.



Labour demand up in textiles--The textile industry, both primary and secondary, has increased its demand for labour. This may be accounted for by the seasonal upturn in the garment industry at this time of year, and by the slightly easier flow of raw materials.

Heavy labour demand expected this summer in Quebec industry--In general, the production programs throughout industry presage an increasing demand for labour as summer approaches. But the extent of this demand for labour from the manufacturing industries depends on the flow of the goods of production. It is quite obvious that all the difficulties of supply will not be solved this summer, but here and there are indications of an increasing easiness of supply, one of the most significant being the contra-seasonal maintenance of employment in the iron and steel industry.

#### Chicoutimi

The aluminum industry almost entirely supports the economy of the Chicoutimi area (including Arvida). War years saw a remarkable growth of this area; employment in the Aluminum Company of Canada rose from 1,895 at July 1, 1939, to a record 12,032 at April 1, 1943.

Periodic lay-offs then began and by February 1, 1946, the number of employees at the Aluminum Company had shrunk to 2,981, a loss of over 9,000. At this date unplaced applicants were slightly over 3,000, indicating a considerable emigration of labour.

Since that time the employment trend has been upward, latest available employment figures showing that there were 4,229 workers employed by the Aluminum Company at December 1, 1946. Unplaced applicants on December 1 were below the 400 mark.

The number of job seekers increased slightly during December, January, and February, but this was mostly due to seasonal influences. As the aluminum industry expands further and outdoor activity is resumed, Chicoutimi will have to draw on other than local sources for manpower.

#### Montreal

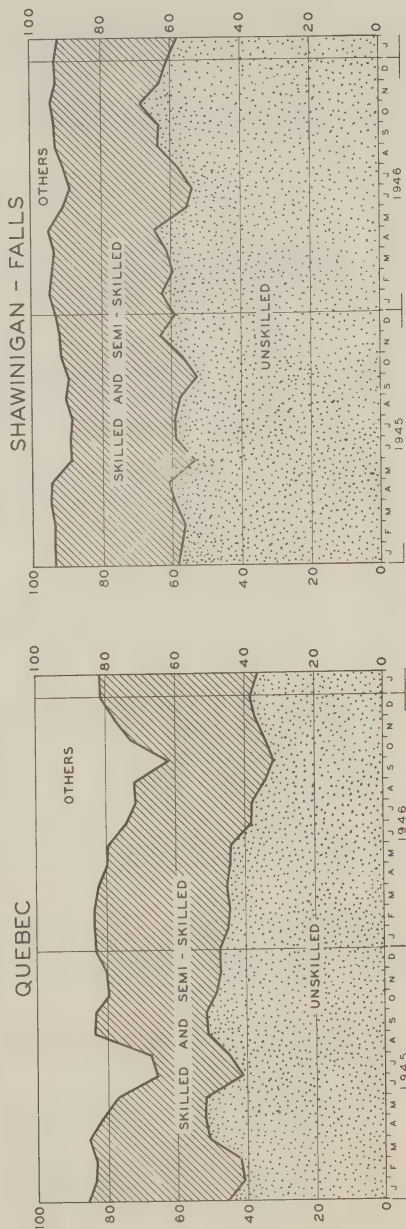
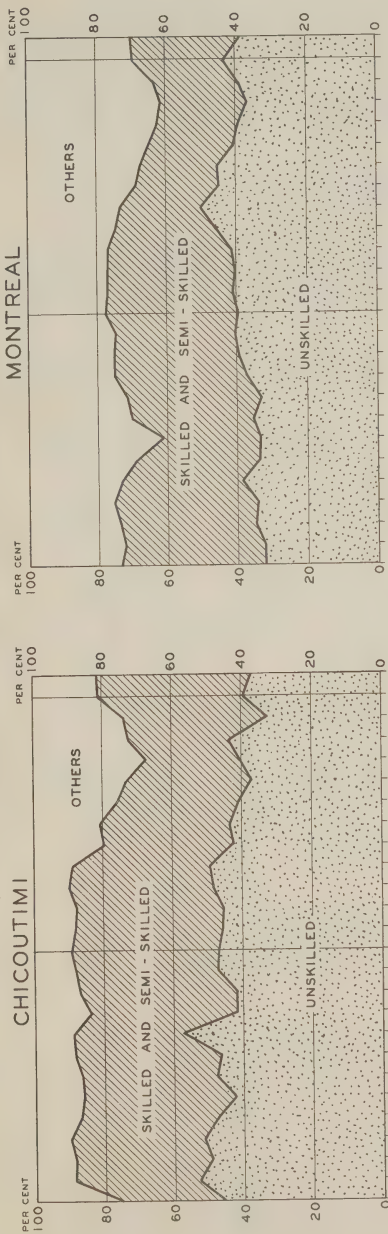
Employment conditions during February were relatively poor. However, they compared favourably with those of a year ago. Unplaced applicants at February 27, 1947 numbered approximately 18,000, fewer than half the reported number (40,000) at the end of February, 1946.

The majority of firms in the "steel using" category are still affected by the serious shortages of materials. As yet, there has been little change in the steel supply situation, and intermittent lay-offs took place throughout February. The foundries were most seriously affected by the shortages.

Building products manufacturers, pulp and paper mills, and textile plants are maintaining a steady level of production. In many cases, lack of materials and skilled men precludes further expansion in these industries.

In the food products manufacturing industry, shortages of box cars have curtailed deliveries of dairy products. Many firms have been using trucks in lieu of railway transport, but road schedules were

# MALE UNPLACED APPLICANTS PER CENT SKILLED AND SEMI-SKILLED, AND UNSKILLED (FROM JANUARY 1945 TO JANUARY 1947)



SOURCE: IJC 757 AT MONTH'S END

NOTE: OTHERS - (PROFESSIONAL, CLERICAL AND SERVICE WORKERS)

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR -- M 2-G-2





seriously disrupted by storms during the latter part of February.

The seasonal peak of unplaced applicants was reached at the end of February and the number of registered job seekers now is declining. Thus, labour market conditions in the Montreal area should show a steady improvement during the coming months as manufacturing continues its up-trend, as port activity is resumed, and construction becomes even more active.

### Quebec

During February unplaced applicants climbed slightly, in line with the normal seasonal trend. Contra-seasonally labour demand also rose, but additional job openings were chiefly for husky men to work in the bush.

Production in the boot and shoe industry continues to be slack, as leather supplies still fall short of current demand. On the other hand, local slipper manufacturers, who now are able to obtain sufficient material supplies, are unable to rehire laid-off workers because of the seasonal lack of demand for their product.

Employment prospects in the shipbuilding industry are bright. The St. Lawrence Metal and Marine Works recently signed a contract to build two vessels for China. This project will provide employment for at least 400 additional men.

A number of buildings at the old St. Malo Arsenals have been bought by industrial concerns, some of whom plan to be in operation within the next two or three months. The conversion of the arsenals to an industrial centre promises to contribute much to reducing unemployment in this city.

At January 1, 1947, the latest date for which statistics are available, the employment index (based on the 1926 average as 100) was 169.5, as compared with 167.1 at January 1, 1946. Although the volume of unplaced applicants is relatively high at present, long term employment prospects for the area are brighter than they were a year ago.

Despite a two-thirds reduction in the number of unplaced applicants since January 1946, a surplus of roughly 600, on the average, has prevailed since last June.

Nearly half of these applicants are registered as unskilled workers and the great majority are either unable or unwilling to perform the heavy work required in woods operations or construction, the only two industries in this area which have been hiring a large number of unskilled workers.

Since December some 500 men were hired by the Shawinigan Water and Power Company for construction work. The men for the power project are being obtained from over a considerable area. If employment for this job is increased to 1,000 men, as is anticipated in the spring, the Employment Office has stated that if necessary suitable men will be brought in from Three Rivers. Construction work, other than the power project, will absorb many more men if material supplies permit.

The Aluminum Company has done no further hiring since last month, when 100 men were rehired, but production is high and there is still room for moderate expansion in the coming year.

Canadian Resins and Chemicals Limited are not only expanding their present plant but will also construct a new one. Expansion will

provide additional jobs in 1947 and in mid-1948. It is possible that this industry may absorb many of the unplaced applicants now in Shawinigan who cannot be placed in construction or logging.

### Sherbrooke

The volume of unplaced applicants in Sherbrooke has not reached serious proportions since the war. Since January 31, 1947, when registered unplaced male job seekers numbered 482, little or no increase has been noted, and in all probability the seasonal peak has been reached. Compared to a year ago, unplaced male applicants have dropped by 31 per cent.

The dearth of suitable workers for local textile mills has prevailed for many months. While total employment in the industry as a whole is at present cut-back by conversion and modernization in one large plant, and material shortages in hosiery mills, orders are still in clearance for skilled workers. All skilled applicants of local origin either refused to accept night work or are regarded as unsuitable by the employers. In addition, few unskilled textile workers in Sherbrooke want to accept jobs as learners at \$30 a month.

Activity in the iron and steel industry, which began to pick up in January, now has increased sufficiently to warrant the referral of all the skilled metalworkers on the live file to local companies.

Textiles and iron and steel provide most of the jobs in manufacturing industry in this area, and nearly all unplaced applicants are "white collar" workers or truck drivers for whom demand, as in most cities, is light.

### Three Rivers

During January and February unemployment in Three Rivers was high, unplaced applicants being more numerous than at any time during the past five years. Seasonal declines in agriculture, construction and navigation boosted the total of registered job seekers, the core of which has persisted since the end of the war. Further, many lay-offs have occurred in the leather goods manufacturing industry where material shortages are acute.

Paper manufacturing is very active at the present time, placements during the month of February alone amounting to over 50.

Both primary and secondary textile manufacturing maintain high production and employment levels. Clothing firms are in urgent need of sewing machine operators.

During February, construction showed signs of picking up, after several months of almost total inactivity. Carpenters and other construction tradesmen are readily available.

Field reports indicate that the seasonal peak of unplaced applicants in Three Rivers has been passed. It is hoped that with the early opening of this year's navigation season job seekers registered at National Employment Service offices will edge downward.

### Valleyfield

The total number of unplaced applicants remained fairly high during February, although the 808 jobless registered at the end of the month was a decided improvement over the 1,238 listed with National Employment Service offices as seeking work at the same date a year ago.

During the past 18 months several new industries have been established in Valleyfield, among them Merks Limited (pharmaceutical supplies) now employing 100 workers, and Duson Footwears Limited which has a staff of 35. The former company plans to increase its staff to 300 within the next eight months, while the latter will soon take on 75 additional workers.

Male job seekers now are more numerous than at any other time of the year. Many farm workers have applied at the local office for construction work to carry them through the off-season. However, as building activity now is practically nil, these job seekers are merely swelling the already large number of unemployed.

According to local reports, employment conditions will show a marked improvement within the next two months. The construction industry alone is expected to absorb 400 men by April 15.

#### Ontario Region

The Ontario region is setting the pace in seasonal employment recovery. The peak of unplaced applicants this winter was reached at the beginning of February, one month earlier than was the case last year. During February the number of unplaced applicants declined 9 per cent. At the end of the month then, there were 39 per cent fewer applicants than at the end of February, 1946.

Agricultural labour demand grows --The demand for labour in agriculture is slowly increasing as the spring approaches. The return of farm workers to the land will leave a certain number of jobs vacant in industry. Foundries in St. Catharines, an agricultural implement plant in Brantford, and small plants in Galt have indicated that labour replacements will be needed about the end of March.

Seasonal slackening in logging --Heavy snow has hampered logging, and operations in many areas are drawing to a close. Labour demand is very light. On the other hand, pulpwood cutting can still use men, and will accept inexperienced workers, if suitable.

Material supply situation loosens in manufacturing industry --Manufacturing is beginning to show signs of easing material shortages. There are numerous reports of employees, previously laid-off, being recalled to work. In various areas, the demand for unskilled labour is increasing. Finding sufficient labour to meet industry's demand may be difficult. It is reported by the local employment offices that unplaced male applicants, especially unskilled workers, are often under or over-age, not physically fit, or wartime trained and incapable of meeting strict specification as to skill. Therefore, the number of men available to fill any particular job is considerably less than the number of men registered as unplaced in the trade.

Shortages of material and skilled workers will cut into summer construction boom --The expansion plans of industry foretell a heavy strain on the construction industry this summer. Structural and reinforcing steel, brass, copper, galvanized iron, and black iron pipe are among the materials in short supply; in the construction trades, fully experienced bricklayers, carpenters, tile setters, terazzo workers and plasterers are scarce.



Power shortage in southern Ontario—A sidelight on industrial expansion in Ontario is the fact that hydro-electric power demands in southern Ontario exceed available resources. The Power Commission has requested that motor driven machines and other electricity using equipment be turned off when not required, in order to conserve power. Although work on three large power projects now is underway and will proceed as quickly as manpower and materials permit, the supply of electric power cannot be expanded as quickly as demand has grown. There will be, therefore, an additional restriction, other than labour and raw material shortages, to the contemplated increase in industrial productive capacity this year.

#### Brantford

As the steel supply situation improves, heavy machinery manufacturing in Brantford is gradually expanding. Practically all the large agricultural implement plants require metal patternmakers, experienced tool and die makers, turret lathe operators, drill operators, and forging machine operators. Few general factory labourers are needed at present. Demand for this type of worker will increase shortly when farmers, who are working in factories during the winter, return to the land.

Textile manufacturing continues to be active, with skilled and unskilled workers in strong demand. Local operators report a high rate of turnover among employees. This is principally because of the low wage rates prevailing in the textile industry.

Retail trade is quiet at present and is likely to remain so until shortly before Easter.

While contracts have been let for a number of large building projects, little construction work has been done yet this year. There is a fair demand for experienced carpenters but other construction tradesmen are idle at present.

In general, employment conditions showed a slight improvement during February and as the weather continues to improve, demand for all types of workers will increase.

#### Hamilton

A slight upward trend in industrial activity marked the February labour market picture. While there was relatively little change in the female labour field, male unemployed applicants dropped by 15 per cent during the past four weeks.

Primary and secondary iron and steel is gradually picking up, despite the continued inadequacy of steel supplies. The National Steel Car, recovering from recent employment cut-backs, called back 360 former employees, in addition to placing an order for 40 new employees.

Labour demand in the construction field remains slow, although a very slight increase was evident towards the end of February. Building activity is expected to reach an all-time high during the coming spring and summer, and the local supply of skilled and unskilled tradesmen will fall short of demand.

Whether the large surplus of male labour will be substantially reduced during the next six months depends chiefly on how rapidly deliveries of steel return to normal. At present accumulated demand for

producer's goods and durable consumer's goods, is sufficient to keep Hamilton's industrial plants working at full capacity, and it is only the lack of materials that prevents a sharp rise in employment levels.

### Kingston

On the whole, labour market conditions in Kingston remained stable during February. Placements in the construction industry largely accounted for the drop in male applicants during the four week period ending February 27. As the weather continues to improve, demand for all types of construction workers will increase.

Production at the Aluminum Company of Canada is being maintained at a normal level. No additional workers have been taken on during the past few weeks. Other heavy industry remains stable with negligible labour turnover.

When steel is available the Kingston Shipbuilding Company will commence work on the new steamer "Kingston". Two hundred men will be hired for the job.

In the female labour field, demand for experienced stenographers (single girls specified) continues strong. Most of the available applicants are married women, and local employers refuse to hire these office workers.

### Kitchener-Waterloo

Since the end of the war, the number of unfilled vacancies has remained much higher than unplaced applicants. During the past year recorded employment has advanced about 10 per cent, and the index of pay-rolls 24 per cent. Total manufacturing employment is higher than at the wartime peak.

Furniture and rubber goods manufacturing were the two industries with the largest employment expansion during the past year. Consequently, all types of woodworkers are urgently required for furniture factories, and rubber factories still require some male labour and many more women.

For many months now, there has been a continued and urgent demand for skilled and semi-skilled construction workers, and demand for unskilled workers will soon increase.

Lack of living accommodation, which is preventing an influx of outside workers, and a shortage of skilled tradesmen are the primary reasons for the high level of unfilled vacancies which has continued for such a long time.

### London

During the past few months the material supply situation has shown a marked improvement. Correspondingly, production in local manufacturing plants has been stepped up and the demand for labour has become more intense.

At January 1, the latest date for which figures are available, employment in edible plant products, pulp and paper, and textiles showed a slight decrease from the month previous. On the other hand, iron and steel

manufacturing showed a slight gain. Field reports indicate that employment in these industries now is on the upswing although immediate prospects for the iron and steel industry are uncertain. There is still a decided shortage of basic materials, particularly of scrap iron and certain types of steel, which may result in staff reductions if relief is not forthcoming within the next month or two.

The construction industry continues to show moderate but steady gains, with materials gradually becoming more plentiful. Judging from the number of building permits issued during the first two months of 1947, construction activity in the spring will be well above the 1946 level.

The present upward trend in industrial activity is a healthy one, and in all probability the coming months will see it further improved and accelerated.

### Niagara Falls

The past month has witnessed an improvement in employment conditions in the Niagara Falls' labour market area. Orders for help have increased and there are fewer people registered as unplaced applicants now than there were a month ago.

All local manufacturing plants are busy, the majority reporting that the material supply situation is gradually easing. Much of the hiring activity at present is the result of replacing elderly employees with men in the 20-44 age bracket.

So far, the box car shortage, which has adversely affected employment in some industrial centres, has caused only slight inconvenience to local manufacturers.

At present, there is little activity in the construction field, but projects scheduled for this spring will be more than adequate to provide employment for all local tradesmen.

If nothing unforeseen occurs, three months from now should see Niagara Falls with very little unemployment except for those persons who are virtually unemployable.

### Oshawa

Although the number of unplaced applicants in Oshawa is by no means small, the employment situation has shown a decided improvement during the past year. On February 27, 1947 there were approximately 1,900 unplaced applicants. This marked a decline of 4,700 from the 6,600 registered with the National Employment office at the end of February, 1946.

General Motors of Canada has re-engaged all its employees who were laid-off because of material shortages. From now on hiring will be confined to replacements. Although the supply situation has improved of late, it is still sufficiently serious to warrant the reduction of working hours from a 44 hour week to a 41 hour week. It is expected that the shorter work-week will remain in effect throughout the spring and summer.

Duplate of Canada and Fibreglass Limited have absorbed a considerable number of workers during the past few months. Both firms have had to lay-off workers temporarily from time to time because of the irregularity of material deliveries.



Clothing manufacturing, an industry comparatively new to Oshawa, is steadily expanding, and new trainees are in constant demand.

While there are still a large number of unplaced applicants in the Oshawa area, a considerable reduction will take place when the weather clears and spring construction commences.

#### Peterborough

While the number of unplaced applicants is slightly higher than at the same time a year ago, employment in all reported industry has advanced 13 per cent, and now stands above the wartime peak.

Nearly all factories in this area are held up by material bottlenecks which are retarding both production and employment. Employment in Canada Packers is curbed by a very weak livestock run, and no improvement is expected for at least two months. It is uncertain when material shortages, now holding up production in manufacturing, will be relieved. Until the supply situation eases, expansion in employment, if any, will be severely retarded.

Although there are 180 veterans registered with the employment office, (125 because of the fire in the D.V.A. hospital), most of these men will be placed in employment in the coming months.

Construction work now is dormant because of the off-season, but as a considerable number of large projects will open up about the end of March it is expected that a labour shortage will replace the surplus now existing.

The new Tilco Limited plastics plant has commenced operations. This will supply a good opening for female workers in Peterborough - about 80 to 90 per cent of all workers will be women.

#### St. Catharines

Industrial activity in the St. Catharines area continues to be handicapped by material shortages resulting from the strikes of last summer and autumn. Shortages are most noticeable in the secondary metal industries with temporary lay-offs occurring as late as the latter part of January.

Local foundries have been able to obtain sufficient heavy labour during the winter months, but are faced with serious shortages when temporary employees return to construction and agriculture in the spring.

In the female labour field, the large number of women listed in the live files of the National Employment office is misleading. A large proportion of these job seekers are married women, applying for part-time work, and are frequently above the age limit preferred by most employers. Actually, the number of women in the preferred age groups who are available for full time employment is relatively small.

Although pulp and paper, textiles, and abrasives manufacturing are maintaining high production levels, unplaced applicants are still numerous because of seasonal inactivity. However the number of registered job seekers has started to decline, and it is expected that male workers will once again be in short supply when construction and agricultural activity is resumed.

### Sault Ste. Marie

Of the employment increase in manufacturing during 1946, Algoma Steel Corporation accounted for 80 per cent and the Abitibi Power and Paper Company 19 per cent. These two companies together engage 77 per cent of all reported employment in Sault Ste. Marie. Employment in Algoma Steel is 98 per cent higher than at September 1, 1939, and only about 10 per cent lower than at the wartime peak, when about 5,400 men were employed. Employment in the paper company increased slightly in the last several months and during the past year showed a net gain of 25 per cent.

Except for the period of the steel strike last summer, unplaced applicants have never reached serious proportions; male unplaced applicants numbered only 217 at February 27. In view of the high employment in industry and an impending prosperous construction year, any able bodied man will be able to secure work. Employment prospects for women are not nearly so favourable as for men because of the nature of industry in the area. Nearly all of the 328 women registered as jobless at February 27 are centered in the clerical, sales, and service groups. Demand for their services is very light.

Current prospects indicate a continuing high level of employment in the iron and steel, and pulp and paper industries. Further, a moderate increase in employment is expected in the former. The Abitibi Power and Paper Company are still hiring pulp cutters from outside regions and can still place more men. The tearing down and rebuilding of No. 4 blast furnace at Algoma Steel will provide employment for many men, skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled.

### Sudbury

The substantial demand for labour in the International Nickel Company continues. This demand is principally for miners, although men are being hired in smelter operations because of a fairly heavy labour turnover there. Prospects for production and employment are good for some time to come - world production of steel continues high, with a consequent demand for nickel.

Unplaced applicants are 38 per cent below the number registered in February, 1946, and unfilled vacancies are 15 per cent higher. Unplaced female workers represent roughly 30 per cent of total job registrants and there is little demand for their services in local industry, which is 80 per cent International Nickel. Male unplaced applicants are widely scattered amongst the many job classifications, but the largest groups are listed under construction workers (seasonally idle), clerical and service workers (light demand), and unskilled workers (high demand in mining - applicants either unsuited or unwilling).

The logging industry has come to the close of a bumper season, which was due to good weather and a plentiful supply of labour.

### Toronto

February witnessed a sizable reduction in the moderate surplus of unplaced applicants in the Toronto area. Field reports indicate that with a few exceptions, employment in local industries now is increasing.

In contrast to the general trend, employment in the majority of firms in the heavy industry group showed a decline during February. This contra-seasonal drop is the direct result of prolonged shortages of materials such as sheet steel, galvanized iron, enamel, functional motors, etc.

The past four weeks saw little change in the retail and wholesale trade employment pattern. The number of vacancies in this field is expected to remain unchanged during 1947.

Toronto now has approximately 8,700 male and 900 female applicants registered for jobs at the National Employment Offices, a total drop of 13 per cent from last month.

It is likely that the general uptrend in local industry will continue through the next several months, becoming more pronounced with the opening up of the construction industry in the spring.

### Welland

Following a temporary seasonal lull in December and January, general industrial activity gained momentum during February.

Unplaced applicants showed a slight decline during the four weeks ending February 27, and the number of job vacancies increased.

Employment in the textile industry remained at a high level, with skilled workers still in short supply. Demand for unskilled help has been temporarily satisfied.

Chemicals, rubber products and iron and steel manufacturing are gradually picking up. Laid-off workers are being reinstated and in some cases additional men are being taken on.

A busy construction season is anticipated for 1947, thus demand for tradesmen and labourers will increase within the next two months.

Employment prospects for the immediate future are bright. Providing the material supply situation continues to improve, there is every indication that labour demand will exceed supply in the near future.

### Windsor

Large industries recalling their men on a seniority basis accounted chiefly for the 1,800 drop in unplaced applicants during February. However optimistic this decline in applicants may appear, National Employment Service officials are still concerned over the local unemployment situation. Shortages of steel and other materials are still a threat to a high employment level in the automobile industry and the situation in Windsor fluctuates more than in most areas in Canada.

Activity in the construction industry will shortly show a marked increase. Thus many skilled and unskilled workers in this field will be placed.



Conservative estimates state that employment increases in manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries will result in a decrease of 3,000 in the number of unplaced applicants by early fall. Barring a heavy influx of workers to Windsor, this will leave an approximate 2,500 registered for jobs at the National Employment Service Office.

When one considers that employment in Windsor's iron and steel industry (predominately automobile and parts manufacturing) has dropped from a wartime peak of 34,000 to 22,400 at February 1, 1947 the present total of 5,600 unplaced applicants is not unusually high.

### Prairie Region

Unplaced applicants edge slowly downward--There was noticeably little change in the volume of unplaced applicants in the Prairie region in February. Although the peak was reached by the middle of the month, there was a decline of only .8 per cent from the end of January to the end of February. The seasonal turning-point was a month and a half earlier than in 1946. At the end of February, 1947, there were 9 per cent fewer applicants than at the same time, a year previous.

Light labour demand in agriculture--Agricultural labour demand is still quiet. A few orders for labour required after the middle of March have been filed, but most of the present demand is for choremen at low wages. Such vacancies are difficult to fill.

Smaller labour requirements in logging--A slight decline in labour requirements in woods operations is evident. Production in the Lakehead area has been estimated to exceed, or at least to equal, last winter's cut. Hauling is proceeding well. Requirements for loaders and teamsters are easily met, but a small, though steady, demand for experienced cutters cannot be fully satisfied. In other parts of the region heavy snowfall has hampered operations, and there will be little activity for the remainder of the season.

Uptrend in mining activity expected this summer--The expected upturn in the mining industry's labour demand is not yet evident. Orders for workers in base metal mining are few. Steep Rock Iron Mines have decreased demand for men in ore production, but shall again need such labour at the beginning of April. None but experienced underground men are at present required in gold mining. There will be considerable developmental work this summer in northern Manitoba, and many men will be then needed to build up the mining camps, rather than for actual mining operations.

Box car shortage felt in Alberta coal mining--The shortage of box cars has hampered Alberta's coal mining industry. Cuts in the length of the work-week were made at various mines. Although certificated miners are always in demand, the requirements for unskilled labour are easily satisfied. Housing still remains a problem in the coal mining areas, hindering any considerable expansion of the labour force.

The statistical trend of employment in the Prairie region, when account has been taken of the seasonal downtrend during the winter, has shown a somewhat suprising downward movement. It would seem that, in the primary industries especially, a return to the pre-war seasonal employment

pattern is taking place. This would cause a greater drop in employment during the winter than would be expected on the basis of the past few years' experience. However, to trace the particular source of the decline, detailed study is necessary. A presentation of the results of such an investigation will then be made.

#### Edmonton

In February, 1947, 182 new applicants registered for employment. From October 1, 1946 to February 27, 1947 the number of unplaced applicants increased by 53 per cent, totalling 4,497 at February 27, 1947. However, compared to February 27, 1946, unplaced applicants have dwindled by 14 per cent. The gain in the numbers registered for work since the fall is traceable not to any marked reduction in urban employment but rather to a great influx of men from rural areas seeking work during the winter, as is the case every year.

Insofar as urban employment is concerned, overall reported employment is up 8.7 per cent from October 1, 1946 and 6.9 per cent from December 1, 1945 to December 1, 1946.

During the past month 560 men have been sent to woods operations and 105 to local saw mills. Except for this demand other job openings are scarce. About 500 skilled construction workers now are registered with the National Employment Office but many of them should obtain jobs in the near future. The number of unskilled workers registered with the local office will also decline when spring work begins.

#### Fort William - Port Arthur

Seasonal unemployment remains a serious factor in this area. It has been stated that if there were 70 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 persons employed, this would be a fairly normal turn of events, in the mid-winter seasonal employment slump caused by lay-offs in the major transportation and construction industries.

At February 1, 1947 there were 96 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers in employment, but this number is quite small compared to the 162 applicants for every 1,000 employed at February 1, 1946. Thus a year ago the employment rating for this area was classified as "serious", whereas it now is placed in the "moderate" unemployment category.

While total reported employment has just about held its own compared to a year ago, overall reported employment does not include the large increase in logging employment, nor does it cover expanding activity in the area's gold mines. Taken on an area basis then, overall employment is probably higher than a year ago.

Most of the work in this area at present can be classified as heavy employment - transportation, logging, mining, construction, and some branches of the pulp and paper industry. Except for transportation, part of construction, and pulp and paper industry, most of the demand for labour is, and has been, in out-of-town regions. As yet many applicants are reluctant to accept these positions. Just recently, out of one hundred carpenters who were canvassed to go to Terrace on a construction job, only four volunteered. It is estimated that 900

skilled and unskilled men, will be required at Terrace soon.

In October 1946, when unemployment was at a seasonal low, although demand for unskilled workers greatly exceeded suitable applicants, there were nearly 500 unskilled workers registered with the employment office. In addition, the large number of applicants on file at that time may be partly explained by the fact that 42.1 per cent of all applicants were women, for whom demand in this area is very light because of the nature of industry here.

A boost to year-round manufacturing employment, which now is only a small proportion of total employment on an area basis, will be provided by the establishment of a basic iron and steel industry in Fort William and Port Arthur if plans materialize. This new industry is designed to process iron ore coming from Steep Rock and will eventually supply the western provinces with the three million tons of finished steel products now being imported from the United States every year. The establishment of this industry is virtually certain. When operations will get underway is not yet known.

### Winnipeg

This area is nearing the end of the usual winter slump in employment. Unfilled vacancies and unplaced applicants are about what they were this time last year and it is fairly evident that the peak has been reached.

A gradual movement of agricultural workers back to local farms for spring work now is starting. Since February 1, a noticeable decrease in the number of unplaced applicants has taken place. However, a large scale movement will be necessary to make any appreciable difference in the numbers.

Although overall employment is slightly higher than at the same time last year, manufacturing in general has been held up by material bottlenecks. The demand for labour in meat packing plants has been spasmodic this winter, as the severe weather conditions interfered with livestock deliveries. The usual heavy demand for women in food products packing and mail order businesses will not materialize so early as usual this year. As yet, requirements for construction workers are light but a sharp upswing in demand will occur with the first break in the weather.

At the moment some 23 per cent of all unplaced applicants are women, for whom demand is encouragingly high. But on the other hand, male unplaced applicants outnumber available jobs by about 9 to 1. Industry is totally incapable of absorbing any such volume of labour until agricultural activity gets well underway.

### Pacific Region

Unplaced applicants down 18 per cent from last year—The number of unplaced applicants in the Pacific region began to decline by the middle of February, the peak being reached one month earlier than last year. Despite the small increase of .4 per cent in the number of applicants from the beginning to the end of the month, the end of the month figure showed an 18 per cent drop from the same time last year.



Growing labour demand in primary industries--Increasing demand for labour is evident in all the primary industries. In agriculture there is a gradual increase in the number of orders filed for orchard workers, general farm labour, and experienced dairy help.

Unfavourable weather cuts into logging upturn--Weather has been the controlling factor in the increased employment in logging. Logging roads are in bad shape from both frost and thaw and the logging agencies anticipate difficulty in obtaining sufficient workers for road and track gangs. There is a fair supply of loggers at present, but with a rapid improvement in weather, available skilled men will again be difficult to find.

Scarcity of experienced men in base metal mines--Experienced miners are needed in base metal mines. However, on-the-job training by some of the major operators is building up stable and experienced crews.

Upswing in mining activity--Gold mining will require many experienced miners and muckers for the coming season. Orders are being filed for all types of underground labour. Placer mining has shown increased interest in obtaining men. The first movement into the Yukon will take place at the end of March. Silver mining in the Yukon will be another source of increased employment this summer.

Short supply of construction tradesmen--The construction industry's labour complement is swelling. There are not sufficient bricklayers, plasterers, of stone masons to begin to meet demand. It is felt that this situation will persist since it is reported that few persons are willing to learn these trades because of the short duration of each job and the loss of time between jobs.

Difficulty in obtaining carpenters has been encountered in Victoria and in New Westminster, despite the fact that a large number of applicants are registered as carpenters. A portion of these are men who, because of their age and because they have been doing only the lightest type of work, cannot be placed. Many of the younger men are only semi-trained.

Material bottlenecks continue--Material shortages are still apparent in manufacturing. In Vancouver uncertain supplies are preventing manufacturing for stock, thereby necessitating constant change-over on machine set-ups. Small lay-offs have occurred in foundries which have completed back orders. Pattern shops are quiet, several pattern makers having been laid-off.

Shipyards in the Vancouver area have registered few orders for labour, but Victoria has shown increased activity as new ship construction gets underway.

Vancouver

The peak number of unplaced applicants was reached at the beginning of February. Since then the number has dwindled appreciably. There has been a 21 per cent decrease in job registrants, from the 1946 peak - March 1.

The main reason for the recent slump in the number of unplaced applicants was a revival of activity in lumbering, and, to a lesser degree in construction. The resumption of logging, due to improved snow conditions, has nullified the threat of curtailed operation in saw mills and pulp and paper mills through lack of logs and pulpwood.

Apparently the bulk of employment opportunities will, again this year as last year, be in construction, logging, food packing and processing; there will also be a much increased demand for skilled miners.

The bulk of the much heralded manufacturing expansion forecasted for this province, and Vancouver in particular, is still in formulative stages. Most of the resulting employment from the expansion program last year was centred in the actual construction work supplied largely by Hydro Electric projects. Undoubtedly, many new plants have been established and many of the older plants enlarged. The fact remains, however, that overall manufacturing employment is still 50 per cent below the wartime peak. Any short-term attempt to boost employment up to the wartime level will be centred in primary industry; it will take many plants of the type currently being established to compensate for the slump in manufacturing employment caused by the post-war lay-offs in shipbuilding and aircraft manufacturing.

# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

## A Key to the Area Tables

The area tables present statistical data on the labour market in 38 selected areas. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in each area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

The areas are classified according to the number of unplaced applicants registered with the local National Employment Service office. The classification is based on a ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 wage and salary workers at work.

An "unplaced applicant" at any particular moment is a person who is registered at an office of the National Employment Service and who has either not been placed in a job by the employment service or for whom the employment service has had no notification of his obtaining a job on his own. It is obvious, therefore, that the number of unplaced applicants are not indicative of the total volume of unemployment in any area. In the first place, not all workers who are seeking jobs will register with the employment service. It is probable that most of those covered by unemployment insurance will do so in order to collect unemployment insurance benefits if their period of unemployment is sufficiently long. Many workers, however, do not come within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Act. In the second place, some workers who register with the employment service may be wanting merely to change jobs. At the time of registration, therefore, these workers would be already employed. In the third place, employment service regulations provide that when a worker registers for a job another contact need not necessarily be made with him by the employment service until 30 days have passed. If the worker obtains a job on his own during this period, the employment service may not be notified of this. In other words a worker may still be counted as an unplaced applicant despite the fact that he now has a job. Finally, a worker may register for work at more than one local employment office. When this occurs there is the possibility that the same person may be counted twice as an unplaced applicant.

These qualifications in the meaning of the term "unplaced applicant" should be clearly borne in mind by any person who makes use of term. They are due to the fact that the principal functions of the National Employment Service is to match jobs to workers, not to collect statistics. They do not, however, render such statistics useless. At present, there is no statistical information available on the total volume of unemployment by area. This being the case, the number of workers registered with a local Employment Service office and not placed in a job is a very important fact to consider when evaluating labour market conditions in a particular area. It is in this spirit that figures on unplaced applicants are presented in the following tables.



In order to ascertain the relative level of unplaced applicants in various local office areas, this figure has been related to an estimate of the total number of wage and salary workers at work in each area. In other words, the number of unplaced applicants is compared with the size of the particular area as measured by the number of wage and salary workers at work.

In addition these ratios have been consolidated into four groups denoting four different general labour market situations. These four groups are as follows:

Group I—Areas in which there are more than 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the Mid-Thirties.

Group II—Areas in which there are between 150 and 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group is characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III—Areas in which there are from 50 to 150 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV—Areas in which there are under 50 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Favourable, in the sense that it is comparable to conditions during the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be clearly understood that the above ratio is only a general method of classifying labour market conditions as they are pictured by the local employment service office. The ratio attempts to do no more than that. It attempts to do just that because it is felt that labour market conditions in a particular local employment service office are an important fact in the overall employment situation.

The area tables present additional material relative to the current demand and supply picture. Definitions of some of the terms used are given below:

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities insofar as employers do not report vacancies to the employment service. "Jobs available during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but should indicate the trend of labour demand in comparison with figures for previous periods.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the employment service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer to the employment service.

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- (a) Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.
  - (b) Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.
  - (c) Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Pointe-aux-Trembles, St. Paul l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.
  - (d) Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.
  - (e) Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney, Sydney Mines.
  - (f) Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT MARCH 1, 1947

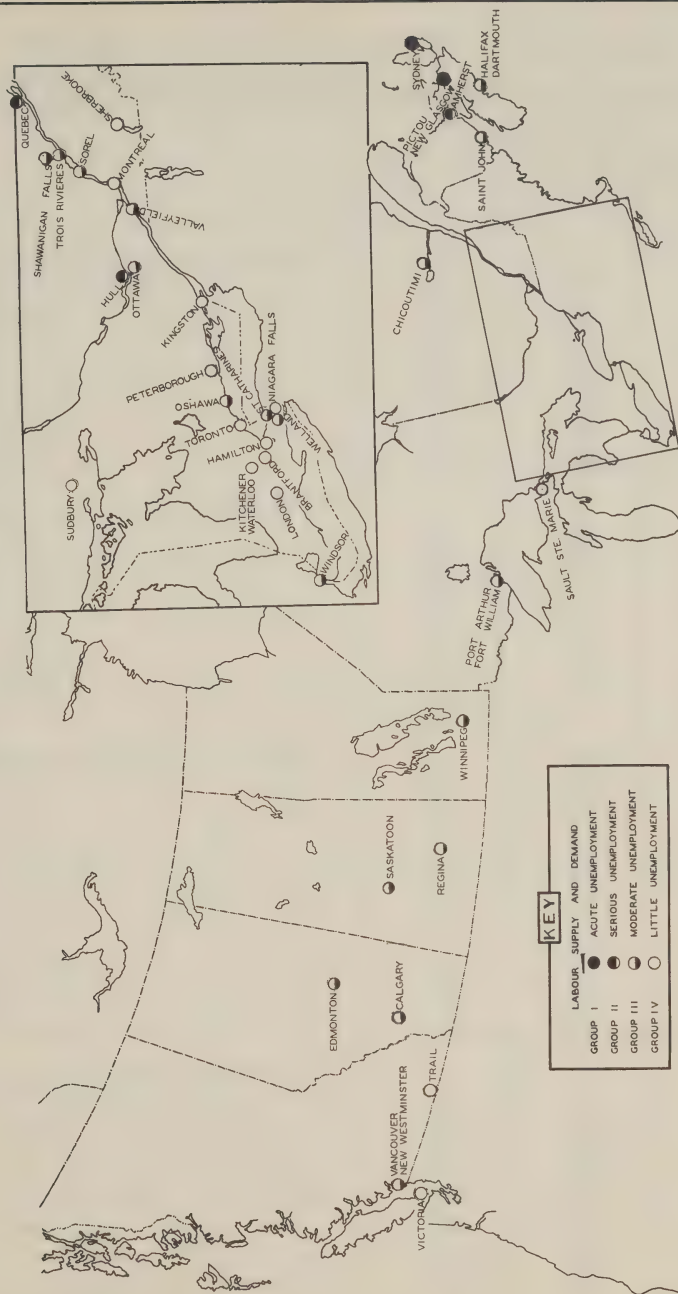






Table I--Index to Areas Analyzed in this Section

Note: The thirty-eight areas below are arranged according to the number of unplaced applicants in each as at February 27, in descending order. Comparable ratings are also given for two previous selected

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		Dec. 26, 1947	Jan. 30, 1947	Feb. 27, 1947
	<u>Population of 100,000 and over:</u>			
63	Quebec.....	III	III	II
70	Windsor.....	II	II	III
72	Vancouver.....	III	III	III
70	Winnipeg.....	III	III	III
67	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
65	Hamilton.....	IV	IV	IV
62	Montreal.....	IV	IV	IV
69	Toronto.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 50,000 to 100,000:</u>			
61	Sydney.....	II	II	I
65	Fort William - Port Arthur...	III	III	III
70	Regina.....	III	III	III
60	Halifax.....	III	III	III
71	Calgary.....	III	III	III
61	Saint John.....	III	III	III
71	Edmonton.....	IV	IV	III
66	London.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 25,000 to 50,000:</u>			
62	Hull.....	III	III	II
64	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
67	Oshawa.....	III	III	III
71	Saskatoon.....	III	IV	III
68	St. Catharines.....	IV	IV	III
72	Victoria.....	IV	IV	IV
66	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
69	Sudbury.....	IV	IV	IV
65	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
63	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
66	Kitchener - Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of under 25,000:</u>			
61	New Glasgow - Pictou.....	I	I	I
60	Amherst.....	III	II	II
64	Valleyfield.....	III	III	III
64	Sorel.....	III	III	III
63	Shawinigan Falls.....	III	III	III
69	Welland.....	III	III	III
62	Chicoutimi.....	III	III	III
72	Trail.....	IV	IV	IV
67	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	IV
68	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
68	Sault Ste. Marie.....	IV	IV	IV

	Canada			Amherst			Halifax		
	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946
Ratio of unemployment end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	67	87	87	165	147	347	87	89	41
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	74,599	90,555	80,310	56	21	15	796	773	1,012
2. Vac. notified during month.....	-	118,696	115,821	-	126	133	-	1,299	1,476
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	209,251	195,831	-	147	148	-	2,072	2,448
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	57,139	52,299	-	45	46	-	629	558
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	73,227	80,029	-	152	19	-	767	1,108
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	71,820	74,599	84,381	4	56	66	811	796	1,247
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	193,636	164,262	183,821	486	511	769	3,847	2,909	1,549
% female.....	19.2	17.2	18.3	20.2	18.8	16.9	16.5	11.0	10.1
% veterans.....	31.8	32.8	32.6	43.8	44.4	35.0	41.7	45.7	43.0
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more..	22.3	22.6	20.3	35.8	33.1	28.3	24.7	31.8	17.5
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	185,014	150,317	173,885	454	492	793	3,755	2,843	1,236
% under 20 years.....	11.6	10.7	-	6.8	7.9	-	16.9	14.6	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	60.7	60.1	-	69.0	70.7	-	64.6	64.7	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	19.2	19.5	-	18.5	16.5	-	14.4	15.3	-
% over 60 ".....	8.5	9.7	-	5.7	4.9	-	4.1	5.4	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	162,132	166,677	-	188	382	-	2,713	1,885
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	326,394	326,498	-	699	1,151	-	5,712	3,434
% referred.....	-	28.4	22.7	-	15.0	8.2	-	18.5	34.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	193,636	193,636	233,145	546	486	1,042	3,429	3,847	1,857
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	2,887	2,893	2,684	-	3,300	3,000	-	43,000	45,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	32.64	29.92	-	-	-	-	-	26.22
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	15,396	15,287	-	-	-	-	183	116

Note:---Figures for Canada re wage and salary workers are in thousands.

(a) Figures subject to revision.

Item	New Glasgow and Pictou			Sydney			Saint John		
	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	432	423	269		310	169	79	78	58
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	68	61	75	154	175	502	490	655	706
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	442	428	-	463	471	-	1,066	1,146
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	503	503	-	638	973	-	1,721	1,852
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	372	365	-	405	428	-	909	594
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	84	48	-	88	91	-	487	670
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	28	68	63	187	154	448	592	490	731
Workers.....									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	2,747	2,661	1,808	5,210	4,560	2,219	2,212	2,251	1,556
% female.....	7.2	5.0	11.9	10.2	9.3	14.4	10.3	7.9	5.2
% veterans.....	41.7	50.2	21.2	48.7	52.8	45.4	44.8	47.9	51.0
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	38.1	44.9	15.7	43.4	48.4	31.5	25.7	34.7	35.7
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	2,737	2,614	1,776	5,162	4,503	2,181	2,141	2,193	1,311
% under 20 years.....	6.6	4.6	-	13.5	13.6	-	15.6	14.7	-
% 20 - 45 " .....	69.3	74.5	-	71.9	72.1	-	63.2	63.1	-
% 45 - 60 " .....	19.0	13.4	-	10.1	9.6	-	14.3	15.4	-
% over 60 " .....	5.1	7.5	-	4.5	4.7	-	6.9	6.8	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,131	815	-	2,221	1,618	-	1,819	1,627
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	3,792	2,623	-	6,781	3,837	-	4,070	3,183
% referred.....	-	21.1	15.8	-	9.4	14.4	-	28.4	26.2
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	2,810	2,747	2,283	5,788	5,210	3,237	2,251	2,212	1,553
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	6,500	8,500	-	16,800	19,200	-	28,500	26,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.84	26.84
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	-	-	-	68	14	-	29	38

(a) Figures subject to revision.



Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946
Ratio of unemployment end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	71	59	539	168	148	83	37	35	81
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	2,166	724	2,868	520	366	537	14,159	15,224	12,477
2. Vacs. notified during month .....	-	2,277	1,544	-	396	364	-	12,059	11,561
3. Jobs available during month .....	-	3,001	4,412	-	762	901	-	27,283	24,038
4. Jobs filled by referral .....	-	106	146	-	87	138	-	4,180	2,122
5. Jobs filled without referral .....	-	856	988	-	400	351	-	8,469	9,202
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month .....	2,043	2,166	2,565	162	520	499	13,331	14,159	13,958
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	457	468	2,786	1,572	1,418	794	17,140	14,667	30,754
% female .....	31.3	22.2	9.5	27.4	24.1	8.2	12.3	12.3	12.7
% veterans .....	7.0	8.1	5.1	29.4	25.0	24.2	19.6	18.4	16.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more ..	4.6	4.5	1.8	27.5	22.9	9.7	10.5	8.9	10.2
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	449	420	2,817	1,552	1,225	661	16,394	13,948	30,408
% under 20 years .....	16.5	13.1	-	14.5	12.8	-	8.6	7.5	-
% 20 - 45 " .....	54.8	58.8	-	64.0	63.8	-	54.9	53.9	-
% 45 - 60 " .....	20.9	20.5	-	15.3	16.2	-	20.7	20.0	-
% over 60 " .....	7.8	7.6	-	6.2	7.2	-	15.8	18.6	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	488	1,479	-	748	653	-	15,887	23,408
3. Total workers available in month .....	-	956	4,235	-	2,166	1,447	-	30,554	54,162
% referred .....	-	13.4	7.1	-	7.3	10.5	-	26.1	12.2
4. Unplaced apps., end of month .....	546	457	3,020	1,783	1,572	948	18,019	17,140	35,782
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	7,700	5,600	-	10,600	11,400	-	484,700	441,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31.30	28.81
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's) .....	-	30	3	-	24	6	-	1,921	2,095

(a) Figures subject to revision.

Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	170	168	247	100	110	198	27	31	41
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	841	1,544	1,809	41	78	94	167	234	321
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,906	2,164	-	518	245	-	436	556
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	3,450	3,973	-	596	339	-	670	877
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	909	721	-	506	201	-	332	331
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	1,135	2,017	-	357	179	-	473	368
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	1,055	841	1,383	81	41	60	133	167	330
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	11,105	9,981	14,549	1,128	1,071	1,590	604	380	672
% female.....	27.2	27.6	30.2	39.6	33.9	12.0	18.5	12.9	5.7
% veterans.....	18.0	18.4	9.6	3.8	7.2	3.2	16.6	26.1	28.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	14.5	14.5	6.6	3.1	6.5	1.5	7.6	20.5	24.3
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	10,931	9,496	14,277	1,116	1,009	1,575	570	334	654
% under 20 years.....	14.9	13.4	-	16.6	12.6	-	20.9	18.2	-
% 20 - 45 "	68.0	69.7	-	61.4	65.3	-	55.6	55.1	-
% 45 - 60 "	12.4	12.4	-	9.4	9.2	-	17.5	17.4	-
% over 60 "	4.7	4.5	-	12.6	12.9	-	6.0	9.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	4,696	5,413	-	937	744	-	788	750
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	14,677	19,962	-	2,008	2,334	-	1,168	1,422
% referred.....	-	12.2	7.1	-	28.0	7.9	-	45.2	32.9
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	11,224	11,105	16,099	1,032	1,128	2,116	532	604	762
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	-	66,200	65,100	-	10,300	10,700	-	19,500	18,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	27.93	25.62	-	-	-	-	25.39	22.73
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	178	310	-	2,546	74	-	155	113

(a) Figures subject to revision.

Item	Sorel			Three Rivers			Valleyfield		
	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no of unplaced applicants per 100 employed).....	104	110	448	119	123	112	135	135	153
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	69	218	24	112	222	467	250	271	248
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	350	610	-	395	715	-	416	346
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	568	634	-	617	1,182	-	687	594
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	345	498	-	225	259	-	187	275
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	178	-	-	519	409	-	323	57
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	73	69	42	123	112	527	304	250	187
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month....	889	804	2,460	3,972	3,632	2,928	807	636	646
% female.....	12.6	14.8	8.6	17.0	16.1	26.9	13.1	14.5	6.2
% veterans.....	5.8	5.5	-	12.9	13.5	7.4	10.7	11.3	9.8
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more..	4.8	4.1	-	10.1	10.2	5.5	8.1	6.9	5.3
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	872	762	2,466	3,924	3,589	2,891	743	598	624
% under 20 years.....	15.6	13.9	-	18.8	18.3	-	9.8	8.9	-
% 20 - 45 " .....	62.5	63.7	-	65.0	66.6	-	63.8	62.0	-
% 45 - 60 " .....	14.9	13.9	-	11.7	10.8	-	19.4	19.6	-
% over 60 " .....	7.0	8.5	-	4.5	4.3	-	7.0	9.5	-
2. Applicants registered during month...	-	788	560	-	1,100	1,538	-	569	706
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,592	3,020	-	4,732	4,466	-	1,205	1,352
% referred.....	-	25.1	16.4	-	7.3	8.7	-	21.2	25.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	846	889	2,466	3,855	3,972	3,391	808	807	933
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	8,100	5,500	-	32,300	30,100	-	6,000	6,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	31.26	28.61	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	-	15	-	24	27	-	9	102

(a) Figures subject to revision.



Item	Brantford			Ft. William & Pt. Arthur			Hamilton		
	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946
Ratio of unemployment end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed) .....	32	33	47	91	103	163	47	53	76
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month .....	445	464	456	2,019	3,308	1,605	1,612	1,604	1,354
2. Vacs. notified during month .....	-	823	830	-	2,420	2,655	-	2,642	2,522
3. Jobs available during month .....	-	1,287	1,286	-	5,728	4,260	-	4,246	3,876
4. Jobs filled by referral .....	-	361	412	-	791	1,012	-	1,450	1,114
5. Jobs filled without referral .....	-	549	661	-	2,329	1,952	-	1,800	1,218
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month .....	440	445	409	1,965	2,019	2,112	1,616	1,612	1,494
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month .....	555	327	511	2,339	1,823	3,261	4,383	3,715	4,239
% female .....	34.4	23.2	42.1	24.9	28.2	38.1	19.9	16.9	19.0
% veterans .....	22.0	30.3	23.9	24.8	22.8	17.6	28.0	33.9	26.1
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more .....	13.9	18.0	5.5	13.9	13.4	10.5	14.7	26.8	20.3
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.	526	302	493	1,411	1,592	3,081	4,125	3,466	4,155
% under 20 years .....	11.4	7.3	-	10.4	8.5	-	10.3	8.5	-
% 20 - 45 " .....	49.0	48.4	-	64.8	61.5	-	53.7	55.5	-
% 45 - 60 " .....	25.5	24.8	-	16.6	18.9	-	24.7	19.6	-
% over 60 " .....	14.1	19.5	-	8.2	11.1	-	11.3	16.4	-
2. Applicants registered during month .....	-	807	914	-	1,973	2,382	-	3,912	4,750
3. Total workers available in month .....	-	1,134	1,425	-	3,796	5,643	-	7,627	8,989
% referred .....	-	46.0	44.8	-	23.7	19.1	-	42.3	30.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month .....	537	555	733	2,077	2,339	3,813	3,882	4,383	6,137
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month .	-	16,900	15,600	-	22,800	23,400	-	83,000	80,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " .	-	-	-	-	35.25	32.83	-	33.35	29.82
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's) .....	-	25	19	-	24	179	-	462	255

(a) Figures subject to revision.

Item	Kingston			Kitchener - Waterloo			London		
	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed)....	40	40	35	4	6	5	37	39	52
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	218	260	307	933	1,190	896	1,104	1,043	871
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	791	698	-	1,400	1,690	-	2,134	2,164
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	1,051	1,005	-	2,590	2,586	-	3,177	3,035
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	527	469	-	473	713	-	1,067	935
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	170	180	-	870	430	-	819	781
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	191	218	250	1,069	933	1,160	1,175	1,104	1,022
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	737	541	557	228	181	137	1,310	1,031	1,142
% female.....	33.5	28.7	26.4	10.1	7.2	13.9	15.8	17.5	13.7
% veterans.....	29.6	28.5	18.9	28.9	29.8	40.1	40.5	40.3	36.3
% vets unplaced 15 days or more.....	25.5	26.2	13.8	14.0	16.6	16.8	20.7	20.5	23.2
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	677	544	466	169	170	69	1,179	850	1,028
% under 20 years.....	24.1	23.0	-	12.4	12.9	-	16.2	16.6	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	51.4	50.5	-	46.8	51.2	-	52.2	46.5	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	15.1	14.7	-	20.1	17.7	-	19.1	21.5	-
% over 60 ".....	9.4	11.8	-	20.7	18.2	-	12.5	15.4	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,016	870	-	740	841	-	2,142	2,052
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,557	1,427	-	921	978	-	3,173	3,194
% referred.....	-	60.1	56.4	-	99.5	100.6	-	63.5	52.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	724	737	587	143	228	168	1,244	1,310	1,525
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	18,200	16,600	-	37,700	34,300	-	33,400	29,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	29.41	26.00	-	30.16	28.20
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	69	116	-	38	181	-	150	255

(a) Figures subject to revision.

Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1947
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....	40	43	42	103	104	397	78	73	54
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	132	144	194	232	242	347	877	893	1,323
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	611	300	-	508	651	-	1,971	2,414
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	755	494	-	750	998	-	2,864	3,737
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	218	170	-	350	270	-	882	1,074
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	288	269	-	211	322	-	1,426	1,750
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	197	132	118	237	232	331	967	877	1,290
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	596	593	444	1,928	2,693	4,083	4,547	3,566	1,942
% female.....	41.8	22.8	18.2	45.0	30.5	48.5	43.4	45.4	15.0
% veterans.....	25.9	24.6	31.1	24.0	29.6	9.9	25.4	27.1	45.9
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	12.6	10.3	20.7	15.8	11.0	5.4	18.1	18.3	28.5
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	682	521	450	1,880	2,011	4,054	4,390	3,542	1,862
% under 20 years.....	17.2	15.2	-	15.0	13.0	-	10.1	9.2	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	48.7	56.0	-	64.6	62.8	-	59.0	56.6	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	20.2	17.9	-	16.3	20.2	-	23.2	26.1	-
% over 60 ".....	13.9	10.9	-	4.1	4.0	-	7.7	8.1	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	608	574	-	1,905	3,232	-	3,313	4,139
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,201	1,018	-	4,598	7,315	-	6,879	6,081
% referred.....	-	31.1	30.1	-	12.4	6.9	-	29.7	30.0
4. Unplaced apps. end of month.....	652	696	693	1,912	1,928	6,474	4,899	4,547	3,134
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	-	16,100	16,600	-	18,600	16,300	-	62,500	57,700
2. Per capita weekly earnings " ".....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.00	26.46
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	15	17	-	-	11	-	26	74

(a) Figures subject to revision.



Item	Peterborough			St. Catharines			Sault Ste. Marie		
	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 100 employed).....	34	34	30	51	57	115	34	32	46
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	307	247	310	218	273	172	645	913	383
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	621	462	-	719	666	-	879	846
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	868	772	-	992	838	-	1,792	1,229
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	455	282	-	479	439	-	269	442
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	253	338	-	387	86	-	254	140
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	257	307	337	262	218	225	613	645	622
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	822	653	450	1,699	1,312	2,110	512	528	649
% female.....	6.0	5.1	10.2	34.5	37.5	44.7	63.1	56.6	58.7
% veterans.....	44.9	47.0	51.3	25.9	24.8	16.9	8.4	11.2	5.7
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	31.1	30.2	36.2	16.6	15.0	11.0	8.4	8.5	5.7
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	768	567	394	1,686	1,311	2,136	478	493	647
% under 20 years.....	15.3	17.5	-	13.1	13.7	-	15.3	12.8	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	57.0	57.1	-	62.5	61.5	-	65.7	68.0	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	19.5	16.8	-	17.7	18.0	-	10.9	9.9	-
% over 60 ".....	8.2	8.6	-	6.7	6.8	-	8.1	9.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	862	561	-	1,384	1,547	-	444	627
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,515	1,011	-	2,696	3,657	-	972	1,276
% referred.....	-	44.1	51.2	-	33.9	16.1	-	28.4	35.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	804	822	644	1,543	1,699	3,014	545	512	666
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	23,900	21,400	-	30,000	26,300	-	15,900	14,400
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Construction:</b>									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	91	22	-	106	70	-	52	5

(a) Figures subject to revision

Item	Sudbury			Toronto			Welland		
	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed)...	38	42	82	24	29	44	73	76	175
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	868	1,519	772	13,999	15,154	8,047	208	198	242
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	2,370	1,320	-	21,068	16,307	-	497	597
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	3,889	2,092	-	36,222	24,354	-	695	839
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	1,028	462	-	6,400	7,358	-	301	323
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	1,211	448	-	9,888	6,284	-	213	167
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	570	868	754	14,658	13,999	9,659	261	208	223
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	1,290	1,011	1,246	11,514	7,643	13,143	734	767	1,342
% females.....	26.7	25.3	32.3	9.2	7.8	5.1	41.4	32.3	54.7
% veterans.....	21.5	23.3	14.2	42.6	40.5	42.7	15.9	19.2	10.8
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	13.1	15.1	7.0	19.3	27.0	20.9	6.5	8.1	5.6
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	995	837	1,102	10,538	6,916	10,700	717	731	1,265
% under 20 years.....	17.2	14.9	-	6.2	5.0	-	16.2	16.1	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	52.1	57.4	-	54.6	46.4	-	56.6	61.6	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	19.2	16.7	-	25.5	29.1	-	17.3	17.1	-
% over 60 ".....	11.5	11.0	-	13.7	19.5	-	9.9	5.2	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,491	1,466	-	15,184	15,676	-	617	1,048
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	2,502	2,712	-	22,827	28,819	-	1,384	2,390
% referred.....	-	47.0	38.4	-	53.7	36.8	-	40.5	17.6
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	1,167	1,290	2,087	9,523	11,514	16,153	703	734	1,631
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	-	30,600	25,300	-	395,900	367,700	-	9,600	9,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " ".....	-	-	-	-	33.19	30.58	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	5	Nil	-	1,082	2,195	-	2	7

(a) Figures subject to revision.

Place	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb.(a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946
Ratio of unemployment end of month, (no of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed)	1	160	336	87	93	92	89	89	73
JOBS:									
A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	147	143	284		2,314	2,114	371	414	551
B. Vets. notified during month.....	-	969	1,406			4,200	-	1,064	1,076
C. Jobs available during month.....	-	1,112	1,490		7,000	3,414	-	1,438	1,827
D. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	671	942		3,228	2,984	-	722	702
E. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	885	886		2,013	1,913	-	372	530
F. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	203	147	397		3,327	3,498	399	371	551
G. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	7,430	8,099	11,828	12,903	10,131	7,310	2,702	1,755	1,574
H. Vets. notified during month.....	24.3	20.9	19.0	22.8	16.4	15.0	25.1	21.1	24.3
I. Vets. notified during month.....	32.3	31.3	22.9	39.9	41.0	38.2	40.5	41.4	46.4
J. Vets. notified during month.....	28.6	29.4	21.5	28.2	15.9	29.8	37.1	36.1	34.5
K. Unreferred applicants, first of month	7,372	7,922	11,781	12,435	7,718	7,164	2,625	1,561	1,546
L. % under 20 years.....	11.1	9.1	-	10.8	10.1	-	18.1	15.5	-
M. % 20 - 45 "	66.9	67.7	-	63.6	58.6	-	61.6	57.7	-
N. % 45 - 60 "	18.3	20.4	-	17.8	19.4	-	16.0	20.8	-
O. % over 60 "	3.7	2.8	-	7.8	11.9	-	4.3	6.0	-
P. Applicants registered during month.....	-	3,433	4,633	-	9,844	9,774	-	2,613	2,107
Q. Total workers available in month.....	-	11,532	16,461	-	19,975	17,084	-	4,368	3,681
R. % referred.....	-	12.7	8.3	-	26.8	29.7	-	34.8	32.6
S. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	5,602	7,430	12,734	12,086	12,502	12,192	2,712	2,702	2,177
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	49,600	37,900	-	339,400	133,200	-	30,600	29,700
2. Per capita weekly earnings "	-	40.10	34.17	-	30.51	28.16	-	29.27	27.95
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	433	161	-	365	967	-	48	47

(a) Figures subject to revision.



Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946
Ratio of unemployment end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed) .....	55	54	50	83	89	91	64	61	64
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month .....	315	349	324	464	598	644	757	922	1,391
2. Vacs. notified during month .....	-	577	750	-	1,736	1,649	-	2,787	2,914
3. Jobs available during month .....	-	926	1,074	-	2,334	2,293	-	3,709	4,305
4. Jobs filled by referral .....	-	360	302	-	1,267	1,096	-	2,127	2,012
5. Jobs filled without referral .....	-	533	620	-	651	1,045	-	1,124	922
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month .....	331	315	517	504	464	643	647	757	1,268
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month .....	2,273	2,099	1,183	4,342	3,756	3,020	4,315	3,352	2,789
% female .....	26.1	21.1	23.9	19.6	14.8	13.9	18.9	12.2	13.9
% veterans .....	36.2	37.9	35.8	44.4	49.1	45.4	41.6	42.5	49.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more .....	28.2	29.2	22.1	34.9	37.5	31.4	21.8	21.3	20.3
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month .....	2,056	1,541	1,077	4,267	3,544	2,946	4,162	3,063	2,802
% under 20 years .....	13.1	13.9	-	10.2	8.4	-	11.5	10.0	-
% 20 - 45 " .....	62.8	59.6	-	59.3	58.8	-	57.8	57.0	-
% 45 - 60 " .....	17.9	18.9	-	22.0	22.9	-	23.5	24.7	-
% over 60 " .....	6.2	7.6	-	8.5	9.9	-	7.2	8.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month .....	-	1,568	1,986	-	3,382	3,327	-	4,824	4,533
3. Total workers available in month .....	-	3,667	3,169	-	7,138	6,347	-	8,176	7,322
% referred .....	-	20.1	26.8	-	28.2	29.0	-	36.9	38.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month .....	2,306	2,275	2,031	4,051	4,342	4,162	4,479	4,315	4,303
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month .....	-	42,300	40,400	-	48,600	45,500	-	70,500	67,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " .....	-	30.26	27.29	-	31.80	31.00	-	30.12	28.81
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's) .....	-	17	32	-	221	509	-	199	761

(a) Figures subject to revision.

Item	Trail			Vancouver			Victoria		
	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946	Feb. (a) 1947	Jan. 1947	Jan. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	44	44	57	96	97	120	47	49	76
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	88	102	86	2,127	2,160	3,538	459	433	642
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	215	96	-	9,836	9,722	-	1,438	1,471
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	317	182	-	11,996	13,250	-	1,871	2,113
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	162	94	-	6,304	5,810	-	863	768
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	29	9	-	6,364	3,080	-	626	563
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	57	88	58	2,433	2,127	3,755	534	459	718
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	428	382	343	19,121	16,290	17,734	2,297	2,313	2,403
% female.....	36.2	35.3	56.6	20.0	14.9	15.9	22.9	20.0	19.2
% veterans.....	22.9	21.2	12.2	34.5	37.9	32.4	37.3	34.7	40.0
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more..	15.9	14.4	7.3	24.4	24.4	14.4	25.2	23.4	20.9
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	389	365	320	18,461	15,272	16,516	2,250	2,124	2,318
% under 20 years.....	11.1	12.0	-	9.6	7.5	-	9.8	18.9	-
% 20 - 45 " .....	63.5	63.3	-	56.1	54.3	-	45.9	37.7	-
% 45 - 60 " .....	18.5	16.2	-	25.6	28.3	-	28.0	25.5	-
% over 60 " .....	6.9	8.5	-	8.7	9.9	-	16.3	17.9	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	305	236	-	18,089	16,286	-	1,936	2,253
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	687	579	-	34,379	34,020	-	4,249	4,656
% referred.....	-	29.1	15.4	-	27.4	23.8	-	26.4	21.9
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	422	428	469	18,823	19,121	21,930	2,222	2,297	3,368
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	9,700	8,300	-	196,600	182,400	-	47,100	44,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	33.09	30.40	-	31.68	27.98
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	nil	7	-	1,904	3,084	-	332	307

(a) Figures subject to revision.







# Canadian

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# LABOUR MARKET

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

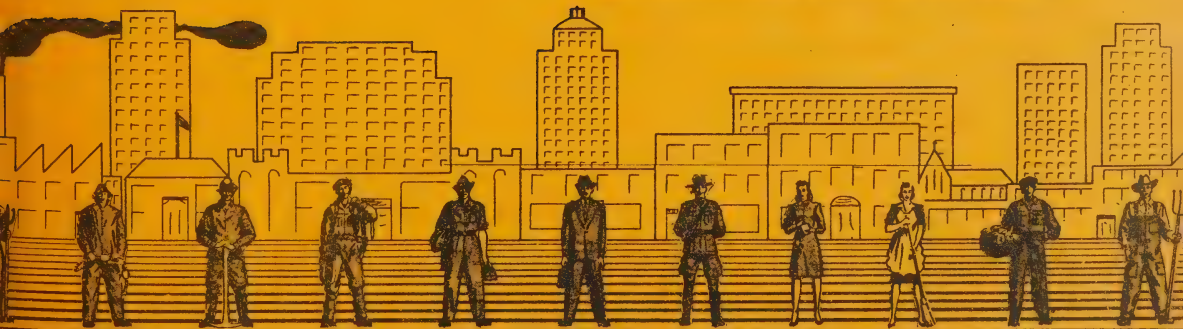
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MARCH  
1947

SPECIAL ARTICLE THIS MONTH.....

A REVIEW OF  
THE MANPOWER SITUATION IN 1946

Government  
Publications



APR. 15  
1947

VOL. 3  
NO. 3





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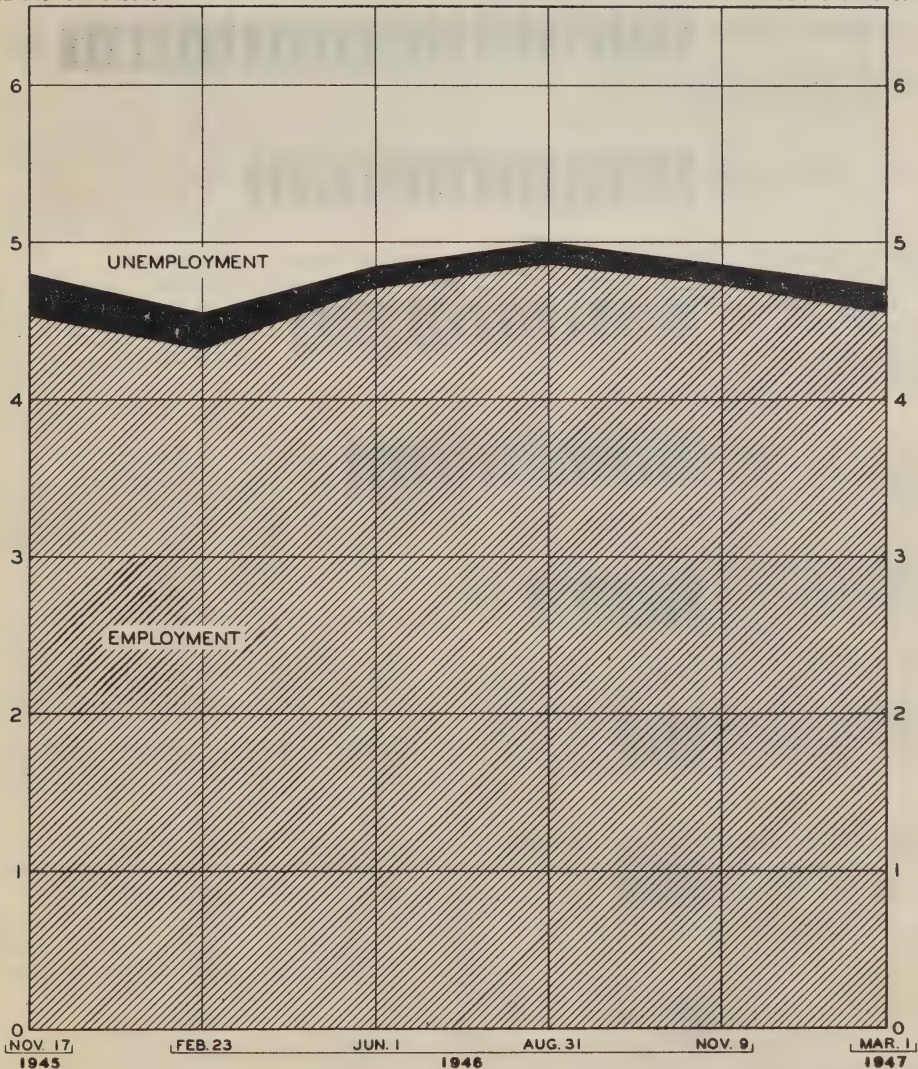
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# THE LABOUR FORCE

(AT SELECTED DATES)

MILLIONS OF PERSONS

MILLIONS OF PERSONS





# PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

(EACH FIGURE REPRESENTS ONE PER CENT)

MANUFACTURING  28 %

AGRICULTURE  20 %


SERVICES  18 %

TRADE  16 %

TRANSPORTATION  8 %

FORESTRY, FISHING  
AND TRAPPING  4 %

CONSTRUCTION  4 %

MINING  2 %

# THE MANPOWER PICTURE

## 1. LABOUR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS

Will 1947 see a repetition of the wave of strikes which swept the country last year?

Organized labour has definitely committed itself to a new wage drive and the results of negotiations carried on in the next few months will determine whether or not there will be extensive use of the strike weapon in this summer's labour relations.

So far, there have been no nationwide or industrywide wage demands. At April 15, only one major strike was in progress, that of some 15,000 Maritime coal miners.

However, two large unions, the Auto Workers and the Rubber Workers have begun negotiations for a revised wage schedule. This marks the beginning of the 1947 wage drive in manufacturing industries. Other unions can be expected to follow suit shortly. Although several small, localized strikes are being carried on now and wage adjustments are being made in hundreds of factories, the real peak of wage negotiations will not come until the summer when most of the present collective bargaining agreements lapse.

Changing union position—At the end of last year, prospects seemed favourable for relative industrial peace. It was generally felt that labour had achieved substantial wage boosts and that any further demands would be unnecessary and would be bucking the force of public opinion.

But the recent upthrust of prices which followed the government policy of gradual decontrol, with corporation profits remaining at a high level has brought a crystallization of union policy in favour of further wage adjustments.

The initial impetus came from the top. Officials of the Canadian Congress of Labour, representing some 325,000 workers, have urged their affiliated unions to seek higher wages to maintain the level of consumer purchasing power. Percy Bengough, President of the Trades and Labour Congress, was quoted on April 11 as saying "new wage demands must automatically follow higher prices."

Earnings and prices rising sharply—Both earnings and prices have been advancing at a rapid rate in the past few months.

The general index of wholesale prices, as published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, rose over six points in two months, from 111.8 at December 1 to 118.1 at February 1. During the first 11 months of 1946, the index advanced only 7.8 points.

Hourly earnings in manufacturing show a similar upward trend. In the six month period previous to February 1, the Canada average of manufacturing earnings increase from 70.0 to 76.3 cents per hour. These statistics are for hourly-rated wage-earners only.

"Real" wages, that is, labour income adjusted by the cost-of-living index, now are at their highest point since July 1945. A monthly index of "real" wages computed by the Research and Statistics Branch of the Department of Labour (1946 average = 100) stood at 106.9 at February 1, 1947 as compared with 103.7 at the same date in 1946 and the 1944 peak of 114.0.

From April to October of last year, "real" wages had been steadily dropping but the trend has been constantly upward since that time.

Canadian Congress of Labour view—In connection with the present position of wages and prices, the report of the Canadian Congress of Labour's Research Committee on economic conditions in Canada, released on March 25, concludes:

"Even if prices were to be held at their present levels, a substantial increase in effective consumer purchasing power, in other words, much higher living standards for the Canadian people, would be required in 1947 to provide full employment and make full use of Canada's greatly expanded productive capacity. Any increase in prices will require an even greater increase in purchasing power, particularly in salaries and wages. The maintenance of full employment in 1947 and subsequent years requires an immediate and substantial increase in working-class real purchasing power."

Possibility of settlement without strikes—To sum up, labour will demand higher wages this coming year. If an attitude of compromise exists on both sides settlements can be made without strikes and the stoppages in flow of production which accompany them.

In the United States, an agreement for wage increases in a large part of the steel industry was arrived at by negotiation. Steel, the industry basic to all manufacturing, has frequently set the pattern of settlement in that country.

Should that trend continue, it would inevitably exert a strong influence on Canadian collective bargaining and should result in settlement of wage negotiations without major labour-management disturbances.

## 2. THE DISTRIBUTION OF MANPOWER. (1)

Full employment continues—There now are 4,565,000 employed persons in Canada and 141,000 unemployed. This means that a state of full employment still exists. Unemployment now is near the minimum possible under conditions which prevail in this country—even during the war the

---

(1) The employment data used in this section are taken from the Sixth Labour Force Survey of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This is a quarterly estimate of employment in Canada based on a one per cent sample. The information in the Sixth Survey is for the week ending March 1, 1947.

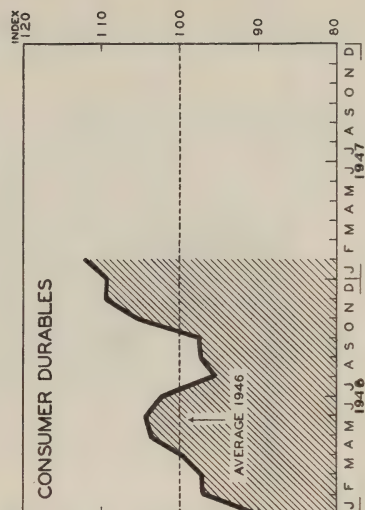
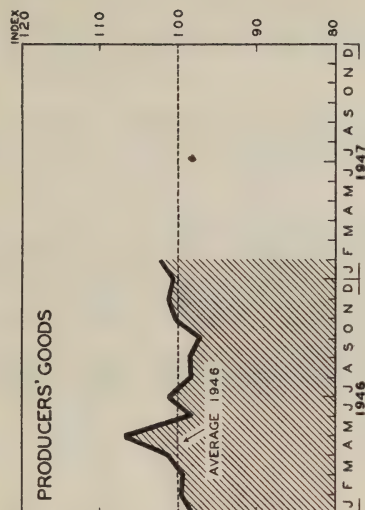
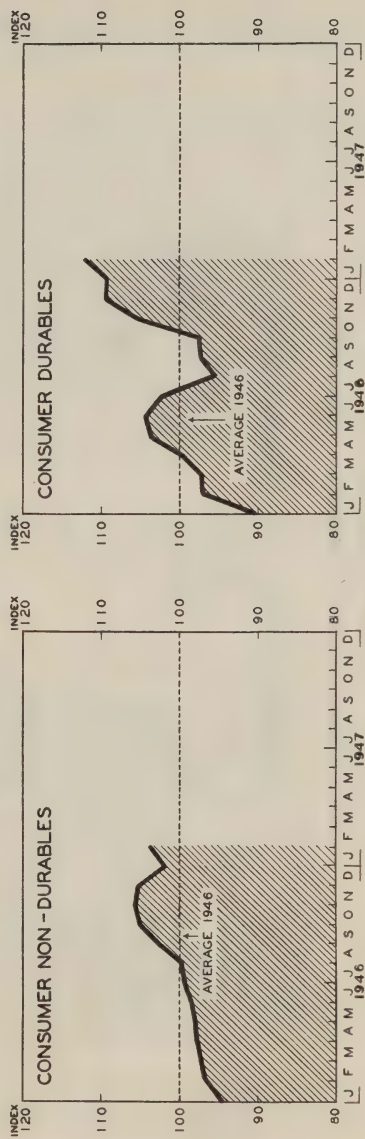
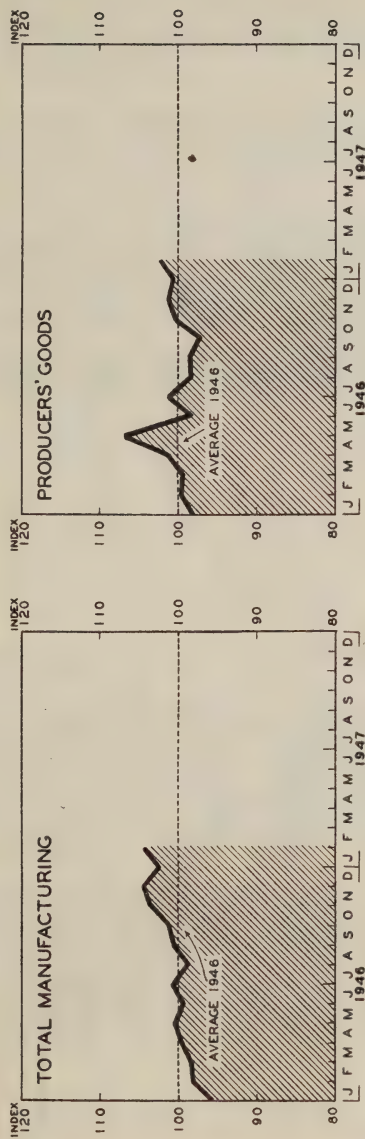


# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

## MAJOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

(INDUSTRIES GROUPED ACCORDING TO GENERAL USE OF PRODUCTS)

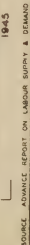
1946 — 1947



SOURCE: EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS BRANCH - D.B.S.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH -- DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M.2-L.L.

## AS REPORTED BY THE



total never dropped below 50,000. Most of the present unemployed are those temporarily out of work while moving from one job to another.

Last year at this time, when demobilization and reconversion were in full swing, employment was lower—4,312,000; and unemployment was higher—at 213,000.

Seasonal employment low reached—The month of March invariably sees the year's low point in employment; it is the interim period between the more intensive summer and winter industrial activity. At the beginning of the month, employment was 4 per cent below its level at November 1, 1946.

At this time of year, a fairly extensive redistribution of employment between the more dynamic sections of the economy takes place. Logging operations have ended their busiest season, releasing an estimated 80,000 for other work, mainly farming. But the real spring upswing, with the emphasis on construction and agriculture, will not come until late April or early May. Nor have retail trade and manufacturing begun to take up their winter slack in employment at this time.

Industrial distribution of employment—Out of every 100 persons now employed, 28 are working in manufacturing industries; 20 in agriculture; 18 in services; 16 in trade; 8 in transportation; 4 in construction; 4 in forestry; fishing and trapping; and 2 in mining.

This represents no appreciable change in the distribution of Canada's manpower over the short-term period, but the long-run trend towards greater industrialization and shifting from producer industries to distributive and service is reflected.

Movement of workers through the National Employment Service—The part which the National Employment Service plays in labour market activity has been steadily diminishing since the end of the war. While all persons who are out of work must register as "unplaced applicants" if they wish to collect unemployment insurance, there is no similar incentive for employers to report "unfilled vacancies". It is estimated that less than half of the current "hires" are being made through the medium of employment offices.

At April 3, 1947, 182,000 persons were seeking work through the N.E.S. The majority of these people, 110,000 to be exact, are covered by unemployment insurance.

The number of job applicants had been dropping steadily from the middle of February until late in April, when the total levelled off at 182,000 due to a small increase in the Quebec and Maritime regions. In 1946, their number kept on increasing right up until the middle of April. In other words, recovery from the slight midwinter slump in employment took place earlier this year, due to the fact that there was not the same dislocation which resulted from the end of the war.

On the other hand, fewer job openings now are being reported to the N.E.S. Unfilled vacancies reached an all-time low of 70,000 in the middle of February, but recovered somewhat to top 80,000 at April 3.

Sex distribution of vacancies—While 80 per cent of those looking for work are men, only a little more than 50 per cent of the jobs available specify male workers.



Openings for men are fairly widely distributed by industry, while those for women are mainly concentrated in three major industry groups.

The male unfilled vacancies are divided by industry as follows: manufacturing—29 per cent; logging—18 per cent; services—13 per cent; construction—12 per cent; trade—9 per cent; mining—6 per cent and transportation—4 per cent.

Forty-nine per cent of the unfilled vacancies for females are in the manufacturing industries with 32 per cent in service and 12 per cent in trade.

# SIGNIFICANT LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

PRE-WAR, WAR, AND POST-WAR COMPARISON

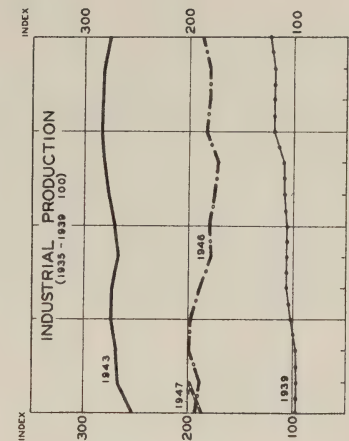
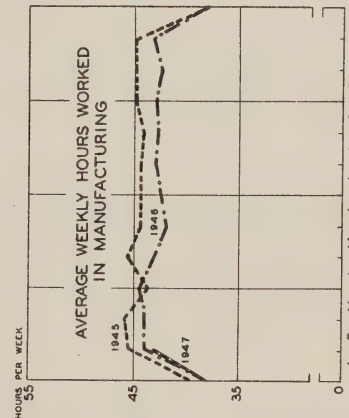
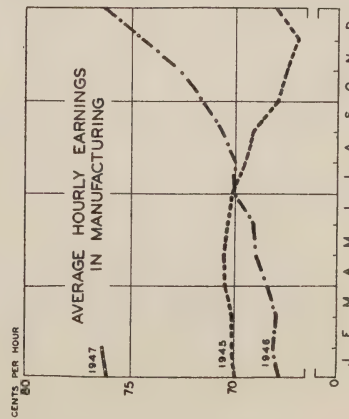
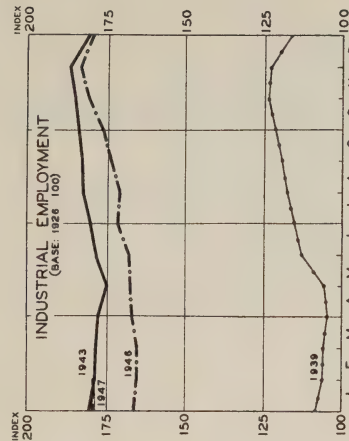
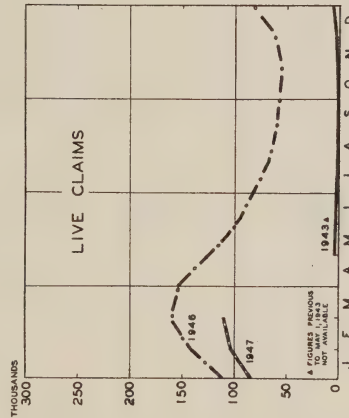
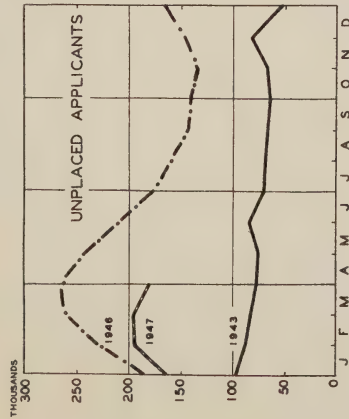






Table I—Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note:—All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Indicators	Feb. 1939	Feb. 1941	Feb. 1942	Feb. 1943	Feb. 1944	Feb. 1945	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1947	Feb. 1947
Employment (a)—									
Index (Av. 1926 = 100) ...	106.5	134.0	163.2	178.3	180.4	176.5	165.7	179.8	179.7
(June 1, 1941 = 100)	-	-	107.9	117.9	119.3	117.0	109.8	119.2	118.6
Number (thousands).....	1,143	1,439	1,752	1,914	1,937	1,895	1,779	1,938	1,860
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	428	445	402
Unplaced Applicants (b)—									
Total (thousands) .....	-	-	-	-	71.9	87.6	233.7	164.2	193.1
Male (thousands) .....	-	-	-	-	43.9	54.4	188.1	136.0	156.0
Female (thousands) .....	-	-	-	-	28.0	33.2	45.6	28.2	37.1
Live Claims—									
Total (thousands) .....	-	-	-	-	12.4	27.3	146.0	84.4	104.0
Male (thousands) .....	-	-	-	-	10.0	20.0	116.5	67.4	81.7
Female (thousands) .....	-	-	-	-	2.4	7.3	29.5	17.0	22.3
Earnings (a)—									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941 = 100)	-	-	117.9	138.3	146.9	145.6	135.7	150.5	160.6
Per capita weekly earnings	-	-	27.73	30.00	31.76	32.18	32.06	32.77	34.94
Cost of Living (c)—									
(Av. 1935-39 = 100) .....	-	108.2	115.7	116.9	118.9	118.6	119.9	127.0	127.8
Man-hours and hourly									
earnings (a)—									
Average hours per week ...	-	-	-	-	-	45.4	44.0	38.1	43.1
Average hourly earnings ..	-	-	-	-	-	70.1	68.1	76.2	76.3
Strikes and lockouts (b)—									
Number .....	8	9	21	31	20	17	19	12	13
Workers involved									
(thousands) .....	2.6	1.8	3.0	5.2	8.8	5.0	3.8	3.3	33.7
Man-working days lost									
(thousands) .....	24.1	7.1	24.1	24.3	39.9	6.7	11.9	28.5	199.7
Industrial Production (d)—									
(Av. 1935-39 = 100) ..	97.5	155.6	216.3	267.8	279.5	240.3	188.2	187.5	190.8

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only.)

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Labour and Prices Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.



## OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The National Employment Service is the official "labour market" provided by the Dominion government. Workers and employers, however, report largely on a voluntary basis - reports from employers indicate that less than one-half of hirings are made through the Employment Service. The tendency has been for a greater proportion of jobless workers rather than labour-short employers to use the employment offices because of the advantage of unemployment insurance for the insured job-seeker. The following report on N.E.S. operations, then, presents labour market activities as channelled through the employment offices and not necessarily the overall employment situation.

### February Activities

The annual low in seasonal activity was reached during February. Signs of rapid recovery had begun to appear by the end of the month. During the major part of February, the tapering-off in winter seasonal activity was not counter-balanced by expansion in summer-active industries. Logging, mining, and manufacturing labour needs receded sharply while there was little noticeable increase in demand for construction workers until the last week in the month. But, lay-offs dropped substantially, consequently the number unplaced maintained a constant level. Fewer jobs and fewer additional workers reporting were reflected in a sharp contraction in placement activity. At the same time, pressure of unemployment forced workers to make vigorous attempts to obtain jobs with the result that engagements of workers outside of the Employment Service swung upwards.

Slump in job reporting--Reporting of vacancies was slack during February, although moderate improvement over the 1946 level was evident. A full complement of labour in the logging camps had been reached at the beginning of the new year, consequently a sharp recession occurred in the demand for bushmen throughout February. Labour needs in manufacturing plants fell substantially, in part due to employers' hiring help without resort to the employment offices. Indications of recovery in the summer seasonal industries appeared during the latter part of the month. Average weekly vacancies in non-agricultural industries totalled 28,000 for February.

During February the number of vacancies on file fell to the lowest point for the war or post-war period. At February 20, the all-time low for unfilled vacancies was recorded - 70,000.

Falling-off in new applicants--The great majority of seasonal lay-offs occurred prior to February. New registrants during the month were largely persons unplaced because of labour disputes, material and box car shortages, and labour turnover. The shortage of freight cars caused lay-offs in meat packing plants, grain terminals, coal mines and pulp and paper



firms. The prolonged fishermen's strike in the Maritimes forced employment reductions in fish processing plants. Applications, other than renewals, showed a sharp drop throughout the country during February when the weekly average fell from 41,000 to 33,000.

The slackening lay-off rate stabilized the number unplaced at approximately 195,000 throughout February. One year ago the number unplaced was steadily gaining and by the end of February had passed the 263,000 mark.

Less matching of workers with jobs—Referral activity was slack during February. The brunt of seasonal unemployment was felt in the fall and new year. Consequently, new applications were at a minimum in February. Workers in demand, therefore, had been sifted out during January. Any significant reduction in the number unplaced was postponed until spring activity got underway. By the end of February, the employment situation had begun to improve and indications pointed to an early development of a tight labour market. The cut in referral activity during February was largely due to a severe contraction in labour needs of the logging and manufacturing industries. Average weekly referrals numbered 21,000 as compared with 23,000 in January.

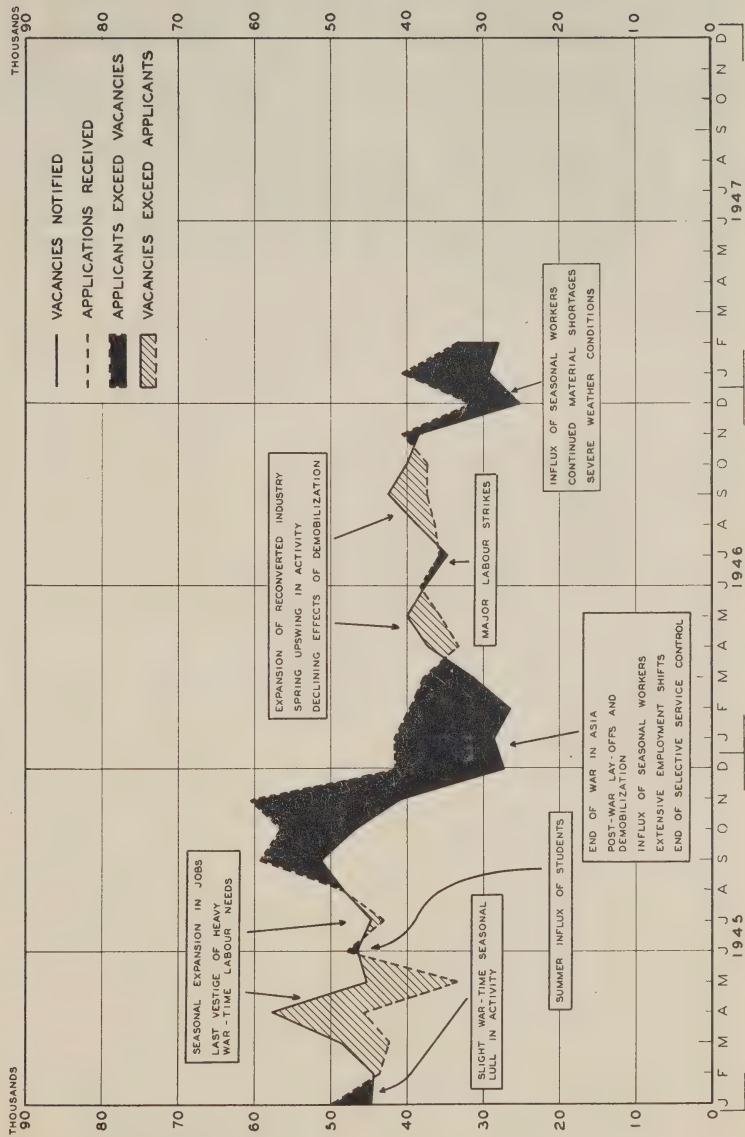
Divergent trends of placements and engagements without referral—In a loose labour market the placement level is determined largely by the number of jobs which employers are willing to make available at employment offices. National Employment Service then, was faced with two important problems during February. The first was that there were fewer jobs because of seasonal inactivity in many industries. Second, there was a tendency for a smaller proportion of possible job opportunities to be reported. It is impossible to determine when a vacancy exists. This elastic quality of employment expansion leads employers to "create" jobs for unemployed workers who contact them directly. With seasonal unemployment at its peak, more workers were making personal contacts with employers. The result was that placement activity fell substantially while engagements outside of the employment offices moved slightly upward. Forty per cent of reported accessions resulted from placements by employment offices as compared with 44 per cent in January.

The falling off in placements followed closely the trend of vacancies notified. Sharp seasonal contractions took place in the logging and mining industries. The drop in manufacturing is attributable to the substantially increased rate of direct hirings. Placement in trade establishments picked up after the January lull in hiring while a moderate decline occurred in the service industry during the slack period between Christmas and Easter holidays. Average weekly placements in non-agricultural industry fell from 14,000 in January to 13,000. The February level was approximately equal to that reported one year ago.

Veterans—Ex-servicemen job registrants declined much more sharply than civilian applicants. This indicates the tendency for employers to prefer to release non-veterans before laying-off former servicemen. However, a steady flow of applications from World War I veterans, that is persons over 45 years of age, continued to confront employment offices.

# OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

ON A COMPARATIVE MONTHLY BASIS



SOURCE: U.I.C. 751-B. DATA EXCLUDE AGRICULTURE AND REPRESENT WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART-MI-18





Eleven per cent of the 35,072 veterans registering for work during February were in this older age category. Placement of these men, many of whom are unskilled, has at times been more difficult than placing the disabled. Employers will often "create" a job for a seriously disabled young veteran. But unplaced World War I discharges, in many cases tend to fall in the class of marginal workers and present a greater placement problem. Such factors as age and often a background of considerable unemployment make them less acceptable to many firms. Total veteran placements during February numbered 13,659. During the month, the number unplaced remained constant but the duration for which job seekers were registered as unplaced steadily grew. By the end of February the number unplaced passed the 61,000 mark. Of these, 76 per cent had been unemployed for more than two weeks.

Table I--Average Weekly Applications for Employment at N.E.S. offices Since February, 1946, Total Veteran and Executive and Professional

(Source: Forms UIC 751B and 7550B)

	Average Weekly Applications		
	Total	Veterans	E. & P.
February, 1946.....	39,582	11,609	272
March " .....	37,875	12,006	266
April " .....	33,158	10,974	308
May " .....	35,376	11,064	299
June " .....	38,205	10,048	318
July " .....	35,802	10,220	279
August " .....	36,371	10,081	346
September " .....	37,389	9,643	264
October " .....	37,271	10,243	286
November " .....	40,606	10,665	276
December " .....	31,516	8,924	184
January, 1947.....	40,533	10,528	272
February " .....	33,231	8,768	275

Table II--Average Weekly Vacancies Notified as Reported by National Employment Service February, 1947

(Source: Form UIC 751)

Industry	February 1947	February 1946	Per cent change
Total.....	28,687	26,864	+ 6.8
Logging.....	3,965	3,441	+15.2
Mining.....	625	706	-11.5
Manufacturing.....	8,796	8,830	- 0.4
Construction.....	2,387	1,904	+25.4
Transportation and Public Utilities.....	2,742	2,093	+31.0
Trade, Finance, Insurance.....	3,759	3,521	+ 6.8
Service.....	6,002	5,979	+ 0.4
Agriculture.....	411	390	+ 5.4

Table III—Average Weekly Placements Made by N.E.S. Offices, since February 1946, Total, Veteran, and Executive and Professional

(Source: Forms UIC 751B and 7550B)

Date	Placements Per Week		
	Total	Veterans	E. & P.
February, 1946.....	12,627	4,208	61
March " .....	14,269	4,793	63
April " .....	16,402	5,951	58
May " .....	18,350	6,440	62
June " .....	17,925	5,519	58
July " .....	17,983	5,369	41
August " .....	17,548	5,007	33
September " .....	18,108	4,691	44
October " .....	18,598	5,183	59
November " .....	17,991	4,718	57
December " .....	12,370	3,463	43
January, 1947.....	14,284	3,816	64
February " .....	12,701	3,415	74

Table IV—Total Unplaced Applicants, by Age Group and by Occupation, as at February 27, 1947.

(Source: Forms UIC 757-759)

Occupations	Age Groups				
	Total	Under 20	20-44	45-64	Over 65
Total.....	194,814	22,142	118,198	39,471	15,003
Professional and Managerial Workers....	5,156	121	3,567	1,198	270
Clerical Workers.....	20,478	2,280	14,523	2,853	822
Sales Workers.....	11,743	2,029	8,066	1,338	310
Service Workers.....	18,877	1,576	7,351	6,235	3,715
Farm hands and Fishermen	6,040	567	4,296	1,017	160
Skilled and semi-skilled	68,261	5,018	45,999	13,766	3,478
Unskilled labour.....	64,259	10,551	34,396	13,064	6,248





## A REVIEW OF THE MANPOWER SITUATION IN 1946

### Summary

An enormous demand for all types of goods was the fundamental economic characteristic of the Canadian economy during 1946. This was the first complete post-war year. The average hopeful consumer had been waiting for it with all the eagerness of a 5-year-old for Christmas. During 1946 he hoped to satisfy his deferred needs for a new car, a new radio, perhaps even a new house, while his wife was thinking in terms of a new refrigerator and a new washing machine.

The spur to production, therefore, was immense. With every delay, the pressure grew. Demobilization alone created tremendous orders for civilian clothes, new furniture and housing. At the same time, war gratuities and re-establishment credits added to the already swollen purchasing power of the country (in 1946, money supply totalled \$7,210 million, as against \$6,512 million in 1945 and \$5,688 million in 1944). All the ingredients for an inflationary spiral were in active operation and every obstacle to all-out production increased the danger.

The government's chief problem was to maintain its controls against inflation and yet to stimulate the operation of private industry. Industry demanded an immediate return to free enterprise. The wage earner and consumer demanded the retention of wartime controls.

It is well known that developments in the United States have profound effects on the Canadian economy. Relaxation of American price controls in the summer of 1946, therefore, caused major repercussions in this country, and the maintenance of Canadian price ceilings became even more difficult. Similarly, labour unrest in the United States was echoed in Canada. In the face of a rising cost-of-living, a drop in take-home pay (less overtime, re-distribution of the working force), and fear of a return to conditions where labour was a glut on the market, the drive for higher wages was coupled with a fight for union security. The resulting clash delayed production and intensified deferred demand.

By the end of the year this last obstacle had disappeared, however, and the economy was geared to all-out production. Private enterprise planned a capital expenditure of \$1,700,000,000 in 1947—it looked as if the great problem for the coming year would be to find enough labour to meet the urgent needs of the industry.

### Four Phases of Labour Market Activity in 1946

The labour market went through four distinct phases during 1946.

Demobilization dominated the first phase, from January to the end of March. To absorb the 366,000 servicemen awaiting discharge was very difficult. About 400,000 ex-servicemen had already been discharged in 1945, and 560,000 workers had been released from war production. The normal seasonal lull in employment was at its lowest point, and at the same time industry was struggling with reconversion problems and material bottlenecks. As a result, unemployment mounted steadily until the end of March, when the trend reversed and the downswing commenced. But the tremendous manpower absorptive capacity of the economy is demonstrated by the fact that unemployment did not exceed five per cent of the total labour force at any time during the whole period of reconversion.

The second phase then began. Reconversion gained momentum and manufacturing showed marked expansion. Consumer goods which had been absent throughout the war years now began to appear briefly and tantalizingly on retailers' shelves. Many laid-off workers were recalled as supply lines filled, although spasmodic lay-offs throughout the period marked the many breakdowns in the supply system. The shortages at this point were due also to the effect of strikes in the United States. The steel strike in January and February and the General Motors strike in March, both drastically affected Canadian production and employment, while the coal strike in April and May was a further hindrance. Nevertheless, industrial recovery and seasonal expansion, particularly in construction and agriculture, more than offset the continued effect of demobilization and brought about a sharp decline in the volume of unemployment.

The third phase began in July and continued until the end of October. For several months previously, organized labour had been announcing that it was prepared to utilize, if necessary, the strike as a bargaining weapon. Formation of a Wage Co-ordinating Committee by the Canadian Congress of Labour had been widely publicized. Its general objectives were higher wages to offset the loss of overtime pay, union security and vacations with pay. In May and June, two major strikes (involving the British Columbia Woodworkers and the Seamen's Union) touched off the series which highlighted labour market conditions during the summer of 1946. The full effect of the consequent strike shortages began in July and August, since the stoppages in rubber, electrical apparatus, chemical, steel and automobile industries brought a wave of lay-offs in dependent fields as soon as stocks were exhausted.

During this period, however, seasonal expansion was a very buoyant factor on the labour market. Temporary harvest jobs absorbed many of the unplaced workers. Under the pressure of enormous demand, building construction carried on against obstacles of nail, soil pipe, glass and lumber shortages. The tourist trade created employment expansion in the service industries, and transportation activity also increased. The impact of ex-servicemen on the labour market had lessened as the number discharged became smaller each month. Thus in spite of industrial turmoil, unemployment sank below 3 per cent of the civilian labour force for the first time since the end of the war.



In October, the settlement of the 81-day steel strike was followed by the rapid settlement of almost all the other major strikes. In November, the economy entered the fourth phase of labour market developments during 1946. The last obstacle had been removed and it now only remained for production to fill the supply pipelines and enable firms at every level of the industrial structure to attain full production and employment. The problem of scarcities was a severe one, however--though the strikes were over, their effects lingered on.

In many industries, the seasonal drop in employment had been postponed and pushed forward by the pressure of demand, which had become stronger with the production delay of the strikes. Great expansion in logging partly offset the unemployment decline in agriculture and service. Furthermore, the employment level was below capacity in most firms because of widespread supply shortages. Therefore, the contra-seasonal gains recorded by many industries in November were merely part of a movement upward to the employment level, which would have been attained but for the strikes and the shortages.

In this period, the number of ex-servicemen graduating from schools and courses increased, casual work of a seasonal nature disappeared and outdoor activity of all kinds tapered off. This, plus dislocations in supply lines, brought about the seasonal rise in unemployment, which, however, was well below the levels registered one year ago.

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### The Distribution of Total Manpower

The total Canadian working force is composed of all those in the armed forces or gainfully occupied. Those gainfully occupied include both the employed and the unemployed. At the beginning of the year this division was still distinct, but by Fall the merging of the armed forces into the civilian gainfully occupied had largely been accomplished.

### The Armed Forces

With the end of the war, the effective strength of the armed forces decreased rapidly. Demobilization gained momentum in the Fall of 1945 and by the end of that year, total strength had dropped by 400,000 to stand at 366,000. For the first five months of 1946, demobilization continued at the same high rate, and then gradually tapered off. Almost all of the 366,000 servicemen were discharged during 1946.

Demobilization brought about a large-scale re-distribution of manpower. Most ex-servicemen entered the labour market directly; others postponed job-seeking to enroll in training courses. University training absorbed 40,000; Canadian Vocational Training, 72,000. About 48,000 set up their own businesses. Of the 400,000 servicemen discharged in 1945 and the 366,000 in 1946, only 54,000 were registered as unplaced applicants with National Employment Service offices at the end of 1946. By the end of the year, therefore, over 620,000 ex-servicemen had been absorbed into the post-war economy and about 73,000 were in various

training courses. The rehabilitation of ex-servicemen, however, was not complete. Besides the 73,000 in schools for which jobs will have to be found, there were many thousands of veterans who had only "stop-gap" employment. A rehabilitation problem still existed for both of these groups.

Post-discharge awards granted have totalled 284,731 since the inauguration of the Re-establishment Order. At the end of 1946, 109,285 ex-servicemen were still receiving benefits of various kinds—40 per cent were attending university, 32 per cent were taking Vocational Training, 16 per cent were drawing out-of-work benefits and 11 per cent were receiving assistance while awaiting returns from newly-established businesses.

### Civilian Manpower Distribution

The following is a brief discussion of developments during 1946 in the chief manpower divisions.

The rapid growth of total civilian manpower was due, of course, to demobilization, and most of it took place during the first three quarters of the year. The natural increase of the population probably contributed about 125,000 to the 550,000 advance. The growth of the labour force kept pace with the swift rise in total civilian manpower. The former grew from a total of 4,500,000 workers in February, 1946, to 4,800,000 in November of the same year (about 3,800,000 in 1939).

The labour force is composed of employed and unemployed workers in agricultural and non-agricultural industry. Agricultural employment showed a tremendous seasonal upswing during the summer of 1946, and at the end of August reached a peak of 234,000 above the February level. A decline in unemployment in those attending school, and in those voluntarily idle indicates the chief sources of supply. This marks the first season since before the war when enough workers have been available for harvesting.

Year-round farm-employment increased by about 20,000 during 1946. But it is estimated that 200,000 male workers left agriculture during the war years and this gap remains unfilled. Meanwhile, a series of long-term bulk purchasing contracts have been negotiated with the United Kingdom, and will help to stabilize prices on all farm export produce until 1949. These agreements will assure a steady farm income over a period of several years. Agreements concerning wheat, apples, bacon, beef, eggs, milk products, peas, beans, tomatoes, and fruit pulp are among the major contracts. Since the gross value of principal agricultural crops produced in 1946 amounted to \$1,239,000,000 as compared with \$1,135,000,000 in 1945 and \$550,069,000 in 1938, it is evident that the available farm labour has been utilized to the full. In agriculture, 52 per cent of the labour force worked 55 hours and more each week, as compared with only 12 per cent in non-agricultural employment. The importation of Polish veterans is designed to ease the existing strain. Also, the capacity production of farm machinery, which will continue for at least another two years according to forecasts, will give further technological relief to the shortage of farm workers.

Non-agricultural industry employs the bulk of the labour force. Since wartime recruiting for the armed forces was largely from this group, it was natural that demobilization should enlarge it more than any other. The shift from war to civilian production also was very significant for non-agricultural workers. It involved shifts in employment from one firm to another, or else changes in work when reconversion to civilian output was possible. In some cases, a firm could produce the same goods, and merely divert them from military to civilian market channels. In plants where this occurred such as those producing food, clothing, and rubber, reconversion was almost instantaneous and did not affect the labour market situation.

As lay-offs from firms producing direct war goods increased, however, the percentage of workers immediately absorbed into civilian production progressively declined. Many of these withdrew from the labour force and returned to housekeeping, to farming, started their own businesses, or retired.

With the speedier progress of reconversion, non-agricultural employment again began to grow, and increased by about 400,000 during 1946. Industrial expansion was one of the main factors in 1946--private enterprise spent \$1,135,000,000 on machinery and equipment and new construction. Reconversion was 75 per cent complete by August, (1) despite snarled supply lines and work stoppages. The accompanying increase in the non-governmental current loans of chartered banks was significant in this respect. During the war, the volume of bank loans had remained static chiefly because of government financing and the war-time restrictions affecting civilian enterprise. Current public loans averaged \$1,223 million in 1946, as against \$1,100 million in 1945 and \$1,022 million in 1944. Since the loans were needed mainly for reconversion, expansion, and to finance larger inventories, they represent more jobs as well as a trend towards normal business and lending conditions.

The number of employers and own account workers in non-agricultural industry, grew by some 50,000 over the year. Ex-servicemen who used their re-establishment credits to start their own businesses (about 48,000 of them did this), accounted in a large part for the increase. A slight rise in the number of commercial failures accompanied this upward trend, although the ratio of failures to new enterprises was remarkably small. Towards the end of the war, commercial failures were at a minimum since any firm which had survived despite stock scarcities, was probably doing a thriving business. It could sell almost anything to the commodity-starved public. Now, however, the competitive element is increasing and in 1947 commercial failures will probably be greater than the 278 of 1946, (there were 272 failures in 1945, a record low of 260 in 1944, and 1,219 in 1938). The amount of liabilities defaulted in 1946, \$5,966,000, was 72 per cent greater than in 1944.

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(1) Report on Reconversion, Modernization and Expansion Progress and Programs in Selected Canadian Manufacturing Industries, 1945-1947. Prepared by the Economic Research Branch of the Department of Reconstruction and Supply.



The non-labour force group had enlarged by almost 226,000 since November, 1945. Gains were recorded in all sections, but the major development was in the number of persons keeping house. Those keeping house totalled 2,815,000 in November, 1946, as against 2,632,000 in November, 1945—a growth of 180,000. Women withdrawing from the labour force as soon as their ex-servicemen husbands became re-established, also the 69,400 new marriages which took place in 1946, explain the expansion.

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### The Changing Industrial Distribution of Employment

The year 1946 witnessed tremendous shifts in the industrial distribution of non-agricultural workers. Total employment rose substantially with the overall increase in total manpower as a result of demobilization. Diverse movements took place in the component industries as a horde of external factors—strikes, bottlenecks of labour materials, seasonality—came into play.

In manufacturing industries, the post-war trend of employment was away from durable goods industry, where war production had been most heavily concentrated, into non-durable industries. At the end of 1946, durables employed only 462,000 workers as against 671,000 at the end of 1943, while non-durables had expanded to 517,000 as against 495,000. The level of employment in durable manufacturing was depressed at this time, however, by crippling shortages of steel, steel products, and other supplies—otherwise, it would probably have been considerably higher.

The peak of war production came in October, 1943, when 1,263,000 persons were employed in manufacturing industries. Throughout 1944 and the first half of 1945, the level of activity declined only slightly. In the fall of 1945, however, the reconversion of industrial capacity to peacetime needs began. Employment in firms producing iron and steel, chemicals, and non-ferrous metals fell drastically.

In 1946, manufacturing employment reversed its downward trend. By the end of the year, scattered labour shortages were growing urgent, particularly in the highly-industrialized Ontario region. Only in the Maritimes did the problem of post-war readjustment remain unsolved—and here conditions were chronically bad.

Industrial unrest interrupted reconversion and expansion during the summer. Disputes in copper, brass, rubber, and soda ash plants crippled the manufacture of electrical apparatus, plumbing and heating equipment, and automobiles; affected the refining and smelting industries and the production of pulp and paper, soap, and glass. The steel strike affected every type of production from ships and farm implements to hardware and nails. The strike epidemic ended in October, with the supply lines of industry disrupted. Nevertheless, at the end of the year employment in almost every manufacturing industry was above that of a year ago—the gains were substantial in leather products, food pro-

cessing, pulp and paper, rubber, electrical apparatus, and non-ferrous metals. Total manufacturing employment reached an estimated 1,039,400 as compared with 981,000 at the end of 1945.

An all-time record for newsprint production was reached in 1946, with a total production of 4,143,000 tons, an increase of 27.1 per cent over 1945's 3,259,000 tons. Shipments aggregated 4,136,000 tons compared with 3,235,000 in 1945. Of this amount about 81 per cent was sent to the U.S., 13 per cent to other countries and 6 per cent retained for domestic consumption. There still is a huge unfilled potential demand in the U.S. and in Great Britain. Elsewhere, demand is such that almost fantastic prices are being offered for any available supplies.

The automobile industry reported that the production of passenger cars and commercial vehicles amounted to 172,250 units in 1946—an increase of almost 30 per cent over 1945 production. The all-time record output was the 270,191 units, of 1941.

The basic steel industry was operating at capacity, but secondary steel had not yet reached capacity operation because of the steel scarcity. Production of steel ingots and castings in 1946 was 550,000 tons lower than in 1945, because of the prolonged strike during the summer.

Shipbuilding employment suffered a serious setback in 1946. Except in the Maritimes, the only modifying factor to increased production and employment was the critical shortage of steel, since the industry has a \$100 million worth of orders on hand (notably from the French and Chinese governments).

Employment in non-ferrous metal manufacturing rose steadily. The heavy requirements of domestic manufacturers of household equipment, transportation equipment, and electrical equipment for sheet aluminum, plus a high volume of exports of aluminum ingots, maintained a high level of employment in the aluminum refining industry. Demand for nickel is more than 75 per cent of wartime needs.

The incidence of female employment in manufacturing changed markedly in 1946. Thousands of women had entered manufacturing employment during the war,—both in the newly-created war industries and in civilian industries as substitute workers. In 1939 women formed only 23.5 per cent of manufacturing employment; in October 1944, they comprised 28.2 per cent. The end of the war deflated this proportion. Re-habilitation of ex-servicemen and either the complete collapse or the great reduction of employment in many war industries, forced women into the labour-starved trade and service industries. Many, of course, withdrew from the labour force and returned to housekeeping. By the end of 1946, the proportion of women employed in manufacturing had sunk to 23.1 per cent.

The logging industry tended to follow the wartime employment pattern which had developed from the scarcity of labour. At the end of the 1945-46 season, from December to April, employment fell only 6 per cent (the normal drop is 46 per cent). In the Fall, however, recruiting of woodsmen was much less difficult than in previous years, because of the greater supply of manpower. Even so, a prolonged cutting season still was indicated for the 1946-47 season.



The mining industry did not expand greatly during 1946. The shortage of skilled miners persisted throughout the year and held up the employment of unskilled workers. In coal mining, total production for 1946 was estimated at 17,692,000 tons, 7 per cent higher than in 1945. In metal mining, the large-scale expansion predicted for 1946 failed to materialize. Labour and housing shortages afflicted the industry. Gross value of metal mining production sank to a ten-year low, just slightly over \$300 million. This was in spite of higher prices for base metals and silver. Gold mines were adversely affected by the re-valuation of the Canadian dollar at par, and very little recovery from the wartime slump was evident in 1946.

Construction employment boomed in 1946 despite critical shortages of lumber, pipes, glass, and nails, and the dearth of good carpenters, plumbers and other skilled building workers. Employment was about 35,000 above that of last year. The tremendous pressure of demand for industrial, commercial and residential building resulted in contracts for \$538 million being placed in 1946 as against \$358 million in 1945. Off-season construction work continued at a high level towards the end of the year, wherever it was at all possible. Many projects had reached the "inside work" stage and skilled tradesmen were still in heavy demand. The cancellation of many construction contracts because of high building costs, has somewhat relieved the pressure on the industry. There is still more work on hand than can be handled, however, and several contractors were maintaining their skilled men on the payroll throughout the slack winter season, in anticipation of an acute labour scarcity in the spring. A year of unprecedented activity in the industry is forecast for 1947. Materials will be in greater supply and will not place so great a brake on activity as formerly. In addition, large-scale public construction will be another strong competitor for labour.

The transportation industry reported substantial gains in employment during 1946. All branches were working at capacity. Repatriation of overseas troops involved the movement of thousands of men. The lack of new rolling stock and motor vehicles placed heavy burdens on existing facilities, which were showing the wear and tear of the war years. The lake shipping strike paralysed the movement of wheat and other farm products to the United Kingdom and continental Europe during the summer. Priority shipping of coal, to build up Canadian stocks for the winter, further delayed wheat shipping. The end of an unusually long shipping season found large shipments of wheat accumulated at lake-head points. The burden on the already over-taxed freight cars was, therefore, that much greater. On the home front, repercussions of the freight car shortage adversely affected production in coal mining and in the pulp and paper industry.

Retail and wholesale trade marked a record year of activity in 1946. The supply of goods was much larger, although not in nearly great enough quantity to meet demand, and redistribution of the labour force shunted workers into this industry. At the end of the year, the high level of consumer purchasing power and the greater supply of retail goods, brought about a record high in Christmas trade activity, and employment advanced more than either the normal pre-war or the usual wartime seasonal advance at this time. Employment in trade should increase further in the coming year if the present high levels of income and production continue.

The service industries expanded markedly during 1946. This group suffered a great loss of manpower during the war. Because of its



relatively low wage standards, it could not compete with the attractions of war industry and other civilian work. Postwar redistribution, particularly among female workers, enabled the service industries to regain some of their former strength. The revival of a flourishing tourist trade created immense stimulation. A record influx of some 22 million tourists spent \$212 million in Canada during 1946. The remarkable growth of the tourist trade is evident when the average pre-war expenditure of \$134 million is considered. Further expansion in under-staffed establishments and another prosperous tourist season, will increase the heavy demands for service workers.

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### Unemployment

In general, the trend of unemployment has an inverse relationship to the movement of employment, even when there are very large changes in the size of the labour force as there were in 1946. The same phases of labour market activity, therefore, appear in the pattern of unemployment as were discussed in the earlier part of this report.

There is only one source of information on the total volume of unemployment. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics carries out a quarterly survey of the labour force based on a small sample of households in Canada. On the basis of this survey, estimates of the distribution of Canadian manpower can be prepared, and one of the estimates thus obtained concerns the total volume of unemployment. There are, however, other sources of information which throw some light on the general trend of unemployment, particularly at the area level. The number of workers registering for employment at the local offices of the National Employment Service and the number of workers claiming unemployment insurance benefits are two such indicators.

At no time during 1946 did unemployment in Canada surpass 5 per cent of the total civilian labour force. According to the labour force survey, the peak was 213,000, or 4.9 per cent of the civilian labour force, at February 23, 1946. Three months earlier, unemployment was 3.8 per cent of the civilian labour force. After the first three months of 1946, the level of unemployment dropped rapidly and by November 9 it amounted to only 115,000, or 2.4 per cent of the civilian labour force.

In addition, the number of workers who had been unemployed for more than three months was never very high during 1946. As a percentage of the civilian labour force, such workers only amounted to 1.3 per cent at February 23, 1946 when they were at their peak in number. By the end of the year they had dropped to under 1 per cent of the civilian labour force.

This, therefore, was the general pattern of unemployment during 1946. The number of people out of work at the beginning of the year increased rapidly under the impetus of demobilization. Absorption of the many thousands of ex-servicemen was difficult since the normal seasonal employment low was accentuated at this time by reconversion problems. A slight withdrawal of women from the labour market was one alleviating factor.

As mentioned, above, an indication of the trend of unemployment can be garnered from the movements of the number of unplaced applicants registered with the National Employment Service. The peak in unplaced applicants of 266,000 was reached in March. At the end of March, the downward trend in unplaced applicants began. This decline reflected seasonal expansion in agriculture, construction, trade, and transportation. As the spring and summer progressed, more and more manufacturing firms completed reconversion and increased their working forces. The full force of demobilization weakened and the flood of ex-servicemen into the labour market became a mere trickle.

In May, the period of extensive industrial unrest began and lasted throughout the summer. Unplaced applicants, nevertheless, continued to fall, since agriculture and construction were absorbing thousands of workers, and the most drastic effects of the strikes were delayed. Towards the end of this phase, however, industrial stock piles were rapidly dwindling and the absorptive capacity of industry shrank. The drop in unplaced applicants was ended.

By the end of October 1946, the upswing commenced. The usual seasonal drop in employment and the effects of strike shortages pushed the number of unplaced applicants upwards. The large number of ex-servicemen graduating from training schools further taxed the absorptive capacity of the labour market. Slightly offsetting this rise was the final progress of reconversion.

At the beginning of 1946, therefore, unplaced applicants registered with the National Employment Service numbered 191,000; at the end of the year, 165,000.

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### Conclusion

In conclusion, a brief review of post-war manpower adjustments will help to throw the labour market development of 1946 into perspective.

At June 1, 1944 the distribution of Canadian manpower was aimed at the prosecution of a "total" war. At that time, it is estimated that the total number of people in remunerative occupations, including service in the armed forces, but excluding women in agriculture was 5,016,000 as compared with 3,693,000 in 1939. Of this number, 784,000 were enrolled in the armed services and 1,055,000 were engaged in non-agricultural war industry. A total of 1,839,000 people, therefore, were directly engaged in the prosecution of the war.

Since that time the war has ended and vast changes have taken place in gainful activities of the Canadian people. By June 1, 1946, the number in the armed forces had fallen to about 122,000; it later dropped to 48,600 at November 1, 1946. Most of this demobilization has occurred in the recent year and a half. Over 1,000,000 people have ceased the production of war goods and turned to peacetime fields of activity. As a result the number of wage and salary earners in civilian industry has risen from 1,762,000 at June 1, 1944, to 2,773,000 at June 1, 1946, and subsequently to 2,943,000 at November 1, 1946, a total increase of almost 67 per cent. While these great changes have been

occurring, the volume of unemployment has never exceeded even 5 per cent of the civilian labour force, and now is running at just slightly over 2 per cent.

How has this been achieved? At the same time, thousands of additional persons appeared in the labour market in search of civilian jobs, other thousands were withdrawing from the labour force. Many older people, who had taken jobs during the war to help relieve the acute manpower shortages, retired at the end of the war. Many women, particularly married women, withdrew from employment as soon as replacements for them became available or as their specific war job terminated. The proportion of women in the civilian labour force, for instance, dropped from 32 per cent at June 1, 1944, to 23 per cent at June 1, 1946, and 22 per cent at November 1, 1946. Many younger persons returned to school to complete their unfinished education. In addition, many ex-servicemen took advantage of the generous rehabilitation privileges offered to them by the Government and returned to vocational schools and colleges. Finally, thousands of new jobs appeared in the labour market as Canadian industry began to gear itself to produce great quantities of civilian goods.

The year 1946, therefore, was above all else a year of great change. At its completion, total civilian employment in Canada was running at a higher level than in any previous period in our history. At the same time, the outlook for 1947 presaged an even further expansion of employment, production and income.

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## EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES

This month's industry reviews cover two industries which are the media through which much of the distribution of Canada's industrial production is effected, namely retail trade and transportation. The third industry covered is logging, in which the largest shifting of labour market personnel is going on.

This post-war period has been called the "golden age of merchandising". Never have retail sales been higher than in the past year. During 1946, the value of retail sales approached the \$5 billion mark. So far, no sign of a downtrend in sales is apparent but the industry is being closely watched in view of its value as an indicator of a general business recession. Economic study here centres around inventory positions and price movements as well as sales levels.

Employment in the transportation industry now is at an all-time peak. This year, the industry will be faced with the gigantic task of distributing Canada's expanding industrial and agricultural production and the railways have requested an increase in freight rates to offset higher operating costs. The shortage of box cars has been a complicating factor in railroad operations.

Seasonal activity in logging has come to an end and the bushworkers were leaving the camps by the thousands during March and April. A high proportion of these men will be returning to farms to prepare for the 1947 agricultural season.

### THE LOGGING INDUSTRY.

Cutting and hauling finished—In general, eastern Canadian logging camps had finished their winter cut by April. The next stage in operations is the transporting of these logs to their final destination. This is sometimes done by rail, but more often the river drive is the method used. The drive gets underway when the ice breaks, which will probably be late in April this year.

General exodus of loggers from camps—Fewer men are needed for the driving than for the cutting in the bush. This works out quite well for all concerned as a large proportion of these workers are farmers or fishermen who work as loggers in their off-season.

Nearly 200,000 men were estimated to have been working in the bush at this winter's peak. Most of these were engaged in pulp-wood logging. During March, the men began to leave the camps in large numbers. It is estimated that not much over 50 per cent of the labour force was left early in April.

Table I--Estimated Employment in the Canadian Logging Industry  
1939 to 1946

(Source: Employment Statistics Br., Dominion Bureau of Statistics and  
Research and Statistics Br., Dept. of Labour.)

Date	1939	1941	1943	1945	1946	1947
January 1...	73,900	135,400	123,000	153,500	166,200	179,400
April 1...	31,400	81,500	92,500	131,300	148,700	-
July 1...	46,700	75,000	72,700	90,600	96,400	-
October 1...	56,700	85,400	71,600	100,700	117,000	-

Current labour requirements—Labour demand in the logging industry dropped rapidly during March. At the first of the month, logging operators were asking the National Employment Service for another 12,500 men; by the end of the month the figure had dropped to 8,000. Almost 90 per cent of the present demand is for pulpwood, as distinct from lumber, logging.

By region, the greatest demand is concentrated in the Quebec area where 3,000 more men could be used, while Ontario and the Prairies (which includes the Lakehead district - an active logging region) could use another 2,000 each.

The figures quoted here may not represent true labour demand in the logging industry for any or all of the following reasons (1) only about 25 per cent of the current "hires" are made through National Employment Service offices (2) in the past, logging operators have had a tendency to ask for more men than they really need (3) laxity on the part of employers in cancelling orders left with N.E.S. offices.

Table II--Unfilled Vacancies in the Canadian Logging Industry  
at March 27, 1947

(Source: Research and Statistics Br., Department of Labour.)

	Canada	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	Pacific
All logging...	7,937	55	3,090	1,928	2,318	546
Pulpwood.....	6,813	21	2,845	1,777	2,151	19
Lumber.....	983	33	242	86	134	488
Other.....	141	1	3	65	53	39

Weekly earnings now average \$32.00—Dominion Bureau of Statistics data show that at the first of February the average worker in logging was earning \$31.75 a week. At January 1, the figure was \$32.07. These data do not include the value of board and lodging, which is usually provided the bushworker.



The rise in earnings in the logging industry, paralleling that of earnings in most industries as a result of the war, can be seen in Table III.

Table III—Per Capita Weekly Earnings in the Canadian Logging Industry

(Source: Employment Statistics Br., Dominion Bureau of Statistics.)

Date	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
February 1.....	17.76	20.51	24.95	27.02	26.12	31.75
May 1.....	21.30	25.06	28.96	26.83	28.10	-
August 1.....	22.98	26.81	26.78	27.07	32.31	-
November 1.....	21.32	25.42	25.76	26.22	30.20	-

Immediate employment prospects—This summer, when logging employment reaches its annual low, there should be in the neighbourhood of 100,000 men employed.

This will be slightly more than were working during the summer months last year. Most operators will be hiring more men to help in the river drives, to finish up the season's operations, and to prepare for the expanded activity expected this fall.

The following are typical comments received by the Employment Forecast Survey unit of the Department of Labour which illustrate some features of the industry already touched on here. The statements of two large Lakehead firms indicate the employment pattern, general in eastern Canada, which they follow:

"We steadily increased our number of employees during the first part of the year. The decline starting in March was due to winter operations being completed. We anticipate a considerable increase for this summer's operations (over 1946) and a further increase for winter operations."

"The decrease (in employment) in April was due to the termination of the cutting season—less men employed during the summer months—increasing in October due to the start of the next cutting season."

In British Columbia, employment is generally not subject to such extreme seasonal fluctuations. One firm, in forecasting an employment trend opposite to that prevailing in the east says "Variations in employment are only because of the seasonal nature of logging. Camps close down during the winter."

Another large Ontario timber company predicts above-normal seasonal employment this summer because "we hope to peel pulpwood during the summer months - twice the normal manpower will be required if we can get it."

In general, logging employment will see a drop of probably 50 per cent or more during the inactive spring and summer season, but the total labour force will still be above the 1946 level. In the fall, employment is expected to soar to record heights as the demand for newsprint and lumber and its products continues high.

# RETAIL TRADE

Employment trend follows sales rise—The increased sales volume in retail trade - from \$2.4 billion in 1939 to approximately \$5 billion(a) in 1946—has been accompanied by increased employment. It was estimated that employment climbed from a monthly average of 244,000 in 1939 to an all-time high of 305,000 in 1946. A higher level of disposable consumer income and improvement in the flow of previously scarce merchandise will contribute to a further employment increase during the first half of 1947. By the beginning of February, employment in retail trade stood at 312,000.

Wide seasonal variations in employment—The employment trend follows the seasonal trend of the demand for goods. As a result, employment undergoes wide seasonal fluctuations during the year. Employment rises rapidly in the fall reaching its peak in December, after which it declines considerably. A secondary peak occurs in the spring with the commencement of Easter buying. After the Easter holiday season, employment declines again until summer when the seasonal low is reached.

These seasonal fluctuations ordinarily do not affect the regular employees of a firm, as they are year-round workers. During the busy season or in summer when the regular staff is on holidays, students and other temporary workers are hired. Some of these casual workers are taken on the regular staff but the majority of them desire only temporary employment.

Steady rise in weekly earnings—Earnings in retail trade have always been relatively low in comparison with the manufacturing industries. Approximately 48 per cent of the persons employed in retail trade are women. This factor, accounts in part for the low income level. Earnings for men, although higher than for women, discourage many males from accepting the less responsible jobs.

As a result of the war, a steady upward trend in retail trade earnings has taken place. Average per capita weekly earnings in 1942 amounted to \$22.09 while the average in 1946 was \$26.33.

At February 1, 1947, per capita weekly earnings in retail trade were \$28.19. At the same time, earnings in the manufacturing industries amounted to \$35.29.

The trend of weekly earnings is shown in Table I below.

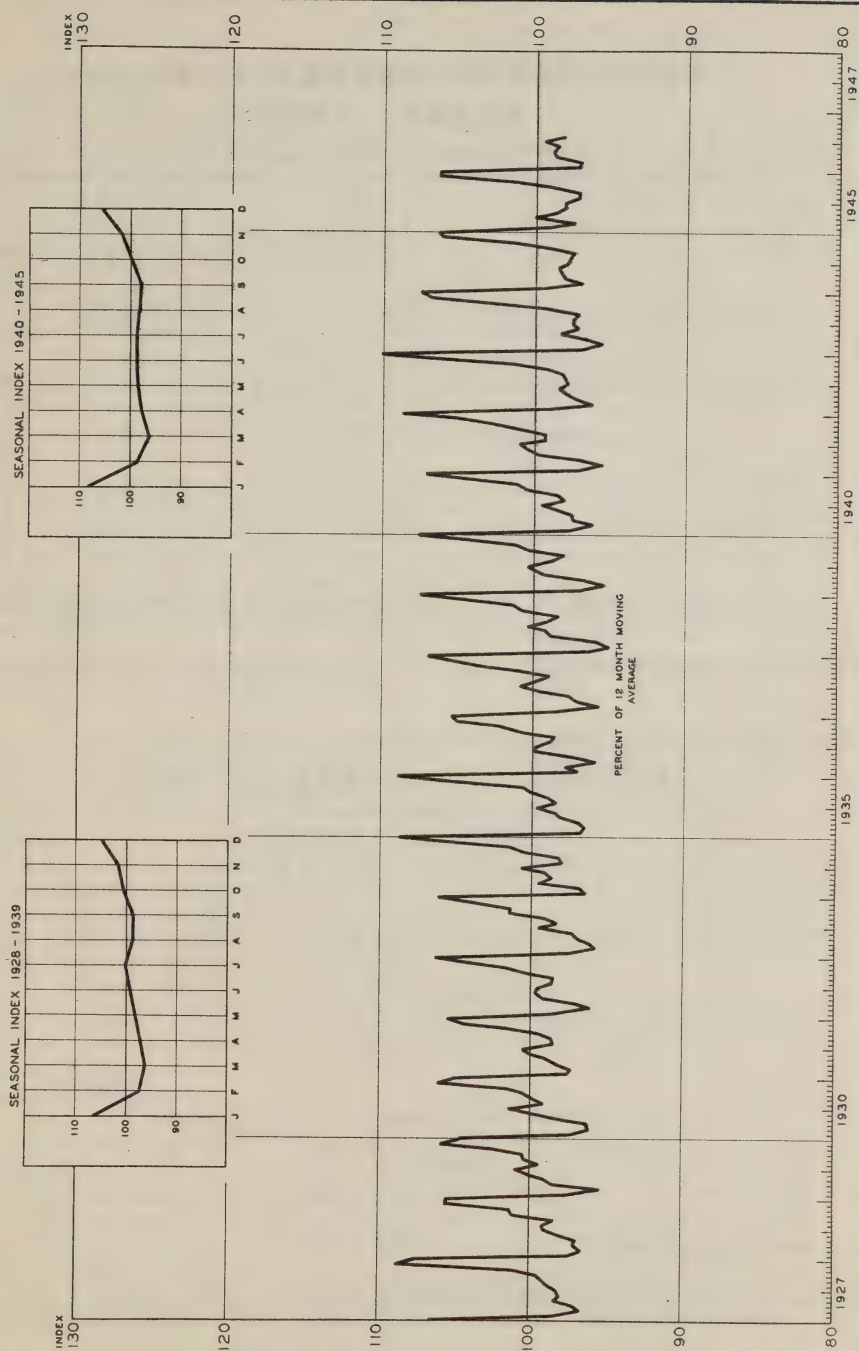
Table I—Per Capita Weekly Earnings in Retail Trade,  
1942 - 1947

(Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S.)

Date	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
January 1.....	\$21.04	\$21.88	\$23.14	\$23.13	\$24.60	\$26.75
April 1.....	22.13	23.14	24.24	24.26	26.00	-
July 1.....	22.37	23.42	24.38	25.01	26.67	-
October 1.....	22.51	23.25	24.06	25.14	26.79	-

(a) Estimated

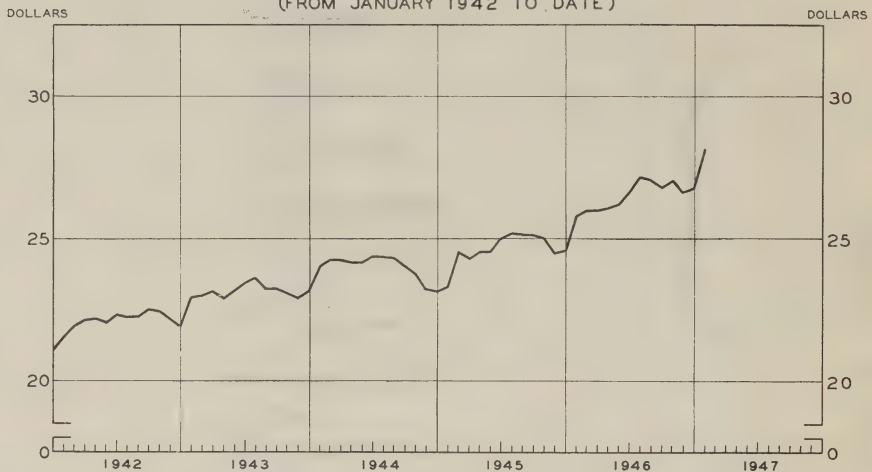
# SEASONAL VARIATIONS IN EMPLOYMENT RETAIL AND WHOLESALE TRADE





# PER CAPITA WEEKLY EARNINGS RETAIL TRADE

(FROM JANUARY 1942 TO DATE)

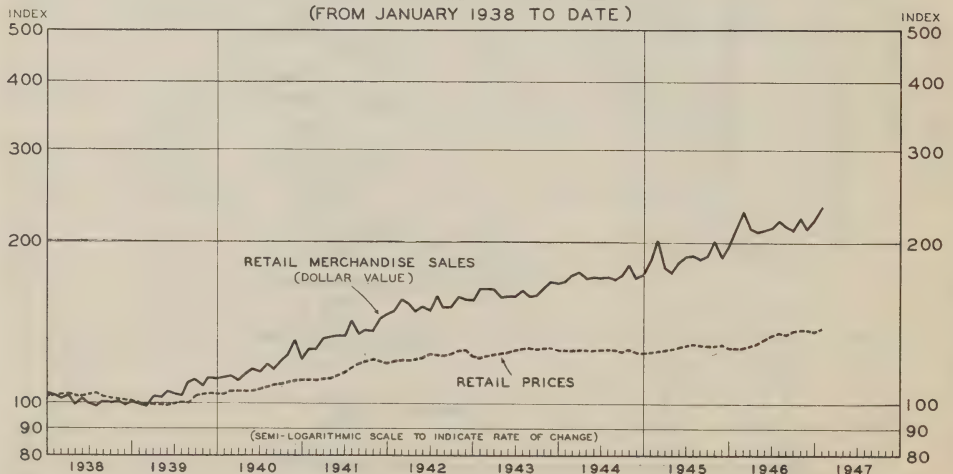


SOURCE: EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS BRANCH - D.B.S.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M.I-G-4

# RETAIL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN RELATION TO RETAIL PRICES

(FROM JANUARY 1938 TO DATE)



SOURCE: D.B.S.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M.I-G-5

Note:—The January 1 figure is always distorted by the Christmas season.

Hiring specifications tighten—Many retailers are demanding more experienced personnel. Age is also a deciding factor, most employers preferring to hire younger personnel. The main difficulty lies in the fact that many applicants with the necessary experience are beyond the specified age limit.

Small percentage of job-seekers register with N.E.S.—Throughout 1946 and the early part of 1947 approximately 60 per cent of the openings in retail trade were filled without aid of the National Employment Service. This is largely due to the fact that many large stores prefer to establish their own employment service whereby they can interview each applicant in person.

Maritime coal strike hits retail trade—Following the onset of the Maritime coal strike, there has been a noticeable falling off in retail sales in that area. This condition is expected to worsen as the strike continues. The effect of drastically reduced purchasing power is bound to be felt in many localities. This will inevitably react on retail trade employment in these areas. The effect on over-all employment in retail trade will most likely be negligible as the number working in this industry in the Maritimes constitutes a very small percentage of the Canada total.

Future prospects—Current evidence does not indicate any slackening in the uptrend in retail sales. Total sales were 12 per cent better in January than a year ago. The 3-month advance from January to March will likely be about 15 per cent over last year. It is expected that this uptrend will continue until the middle of the year at least. Although the retail price index cannot be used to deflate the sales index, it is well to note that a rise of 8 per cent occurred in prices during 1946. Roughly speaking, it could be said that about 67 per cent of the rise in value of merchandise sales last year was due to price increases.

At the same time, employment will increase but at a much slower rate. This slackening in the rate of increase should enable retailers to build up a more efficient staff, and limit the rate of labour turnover. It is expected that 1947 will be a year of reasonable employment stability.

A price recession has been predicted for the latter part of 1947. Once the backlog of demand for previously scarce goods has been met, buyers will put up a resistance to current high prices and sales will level off. In other words, prices will fall off when the supply of merchandise exceeds the demand. There is already some evidence of greater discrimination on the part of the consumer. The fear of falling prices has been reflected also in the small inventories currently carried by retail stores. Many retailers disposed of their higher cost merchandise in the Christmas rush and in January "clearance sales".

### TRANSPORTATION (a)

Busy season expected—During March, the transportation industry was influenced by the usual midwinter employment slump common to most industries, the severity of which was increased this year by violent storms across the country. However, with the coming of spring, the industry is preparing for a very busy season. Employment will be given to a large number of men when inland navigation begins and stevedoring companies commence spring work. If freight rates rise and the box car shortage persists, trucking companies will also provide more employment opportunities. For the railways, the wartime peak of traffic has been passed and operations are levelling off. Nevertheless, there is still a vast volume of goods to be carried by rail. Air transportation is also preparing for an active season.

Steady employment rise since 1939—The size of the working force in Canada's transportation industry has risen steadily since 1939. Estimates indicate that employment has risen without interruption from a monthly average of 160,000 in 1939 to an average of 254,000 in 1946. By the beginning of February, 1947, employment was still at a high level (260,000) representing an increase of 20,000 over February of last year and a rise of 2,000 over January 1, 1947. Heightened activity in railway maintenance caused the rise during January.

The peak employment attained in transportation during the war years was sustained by increased production and distribution of goods. A new record for the war years was established at October 21, 1944 when railway carloadings reached a total of 78,601 cars. Since the end of the war, this traffic has naturally begun to level off - carloadings at the end of March, 1947, totalled 70,203 cars. Business by city transportation companies still carries on at record levels.

Moderate seasonal variation—Seasonal variations in transportation employment, although greater than those in total employment in Canada, are not so violent as the fluctuations in industries such as automobiles and parts, logging and construction. Employment rises from spring to fall and declines in winter. The seasonal peak usually occurs between July and the beginning of October, while the lowest point occurs during January and February.

During the period 1929 to 1939, there was an average seasonal decline of about 6.2 per cent and an average seasonal expansion of 5.7 per cent - this meant a total range of variation of 11.9 per cent about the average level of employment. Water transportation and harbour services are affected most by seasonal conditions. Railways are indirectly affected by seasonal fluctuations in the flow of goods.

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(a) Includes steam railways, railway maintenance, air transportation, water transportation, cartage and trucking, electric railways, taxicabs and buslines, storage, tourist agencies and travel bureaus.



High wage rates--The wages paid in the transportation industry compare very favourably with those in other industries. For example, at February 1, 1947, average per capita weekly earnings of \$43.87 in this industry were exceeded by earnings in only two other industries - the pulp and paper industry with \$44.83 and metallic mining with \$44.54. The high level of wage rates has been sustained by steam railway employees who are very highly paid and strongly unionized.

Labour surplus exists--According to the number of unplaced applicants at the end of March there was a surplus of labour in some sections of Canada's transportation industry. Veterans who drove military vehicles during the war greatly inflate the supply of unplaced truck and tractor drivers. For example, at March 27 there were 25 unplaced workers of this type for every job available.

Opportunities for employment have been restricted owing to a decrease from the war peak in traffic demand. The lack of rolling stock, transportation equipment and vehicles has also restricted employment expansion.

Once equipment is available the situation should be somewhat alleviated. For example, the equipment now being received by the bus and street railway systems in British Columbia has resulted in the opening of many permanent employment opportunities.

Box car shortage persists in March--During March there was still the problem of moving Canadian grain to the Lakehead and Pacific coast ports for export. Needs amounted to some 8,000 or 9,000 more box cars than were available for the purpose. Altogether, about 11,000 were being utilized for grain transportation. Extreme weather conditions in the Prairies aggravated the situation.

It was stated that carloadings must average at least 900 a day until mid-May in order to correct the situation. Mild weather toward the end of March helped to relieve the shortage - carloadings for the week ending April 5 showed an average of 1,020 per day which is some improvement over previous reports.

Both C.N.R. and C.P.R. have placed orders for freight cars.

Railways demand 30 per cent increase in freight rates--A hearing with the Board of Transport Commissioners has been in progress since mid-February to consider the railways' demands for a horizontal 30 per cent freight rate increase.

It was estimated that wages and materials will cost over \$90 millions more in 1947 than comparable services in 1939. Therefore, the railways argue that, since the wartime peak of traffic has been passed, rates will have to go up or earnings will drop again this year. They also stated that rates should be high enough to provide net earnings for a "reasonable return" on investment and a surplus for additions and improvements. The provinces do not want a horizontal increase as it might affect the present freight rate differentials.

It has been predicted that higher freight rates would result in reduced freight business for the railways. A heavy loss of freight

volume would result, in British Columbia in particular. Competition from trucks and lake boats would be much greater.

Record tourist season expected--A record tourist season seems likely this year with large advance bookings at many resorts. The opening of new tourist areas has added to the range of tourist attractions. It is expected that the 1947 season will be even better than last year when a record 22 million visitors spent \$233 millions, all of which will augment the transportation working force.

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following deals with the March labour market conditions in each of the five regions, Maritime, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie and Pacific.

Table I—Unfilled Vacancies and Unplaced Applicants  
by Region as at April 3, 1947

(Source: Advance Report on Labour Demand and Supply, R & S)

Region	Unfilled Vacancies				Unplaced Applicants			
	Male	Female	Total	Per cent	Male	Female	Total	Per cent
Maritime.....	1,500	1,800	3,300	4.1	25,900	3,400	29,300	16.1
Quebec.....	10,700	12,700	23,400	28.6	41,500	8,600	50,100	27.5
Ontario.....	18,900	18,500	37,400	45.7	33,700	11,000	44,700	24.5
Prairie.....	7,200	3,800	11,000	13.4	29,200	6,600	35,800	19.7
Pacific.....	4,800	1,900	6,700	8.2	16,300	5,900	22,200	12.2
Canada.....	43,100	38,700	81,800	100.0	146,600	35,500	182,000	100.0

### Maritime Region

Uptrend of job registrants continues—The number of unplaced applicants is still mounting, while there has been little change in the number of orders for labour at the National Employment Offices. Vacancies in logging have dropped considerably, but have increased slightly in agriculture and fishing.

Strike in fishing industry ends:- some price declines evident—The three-months fishermen's strike ended March 22. No settlement was made. In several sections of the industry falling prices are evident. This will affect employment in the processing plants. There has been a drop in the price of fresh fish at Lunenburg. In addition, lobster packers of Prince Edward Island are expecting a sharp price drop for both canned and live lobsters this coming season.

Driving operations in logging delayed—The late ice break-up will delay log driving operations, but the drive ought to be underway by the beginning of May. Portable sawmills are operating already and large mills are preparing to handle the winter cut.



Boom construction program faced with rising building costs-- Though frost conditions have delayed the start of much construction, a heavy building program is expected, except in those areas directly affected by the coal strike. However, projected work may be curtailed if building costs soar too high. Recently, bids on several tenders for highway construction in Nova Scotia were so high that no contracts were let.

Box-car shortage eases--The box-car shortage has eased. More grain is arriving at Halifax. But the amount of freight passing through the port of Saint John is diminishing. When the St. Lawrence opens to ocean traffic at the end of April, Halifax and Saint John will revert to the usual slower activity of the summer, which is in decided contrast to the winter months. Longshoremen and freight handlers must then find other employment.

Miners' strike continues - coal supply dwindles--The supply of coal is low and may be seriously affected by conditions in the American coal industry. Unless the coal strike ends shortly, or present coal stocks are increased by additional supplies from the United States, the Sydney Steel plant may find it necessary to close down. This would mean four or five thousand more men unemployed. At present, coke production has been considerably reduced, but other operations have been maintained at a high level.

Upswing in rolling stock manufacturing depends on coal supplies-- Plants manufacturing rolling stock or its production components in the New-Glasgow area all expect large increases in employment, stemming from the recent release of orders from the C.N.R. and the C.P.R. However, the plants are operating on American coal supplies. Any interruption, or the closing down of the Sydney Steel plant, will seriously affect all operations.

### Halifax

H.M.C. Dockyard has laid-off 1,000 men. Company officials of the Halifax Shipyards Limited report that they are working from job to job, and that the level of employment will necessarily be related to future contracts. As most of the men released from the shipyard possess no particular skill applicable to other industry, considerable difficulty is anticipated in providing them with suitable long-term employment.

The termination of the fishermen's strike has brightened employment prospects considerably. Accordingly, this will relieve the unemployment created in the fish processing industry.

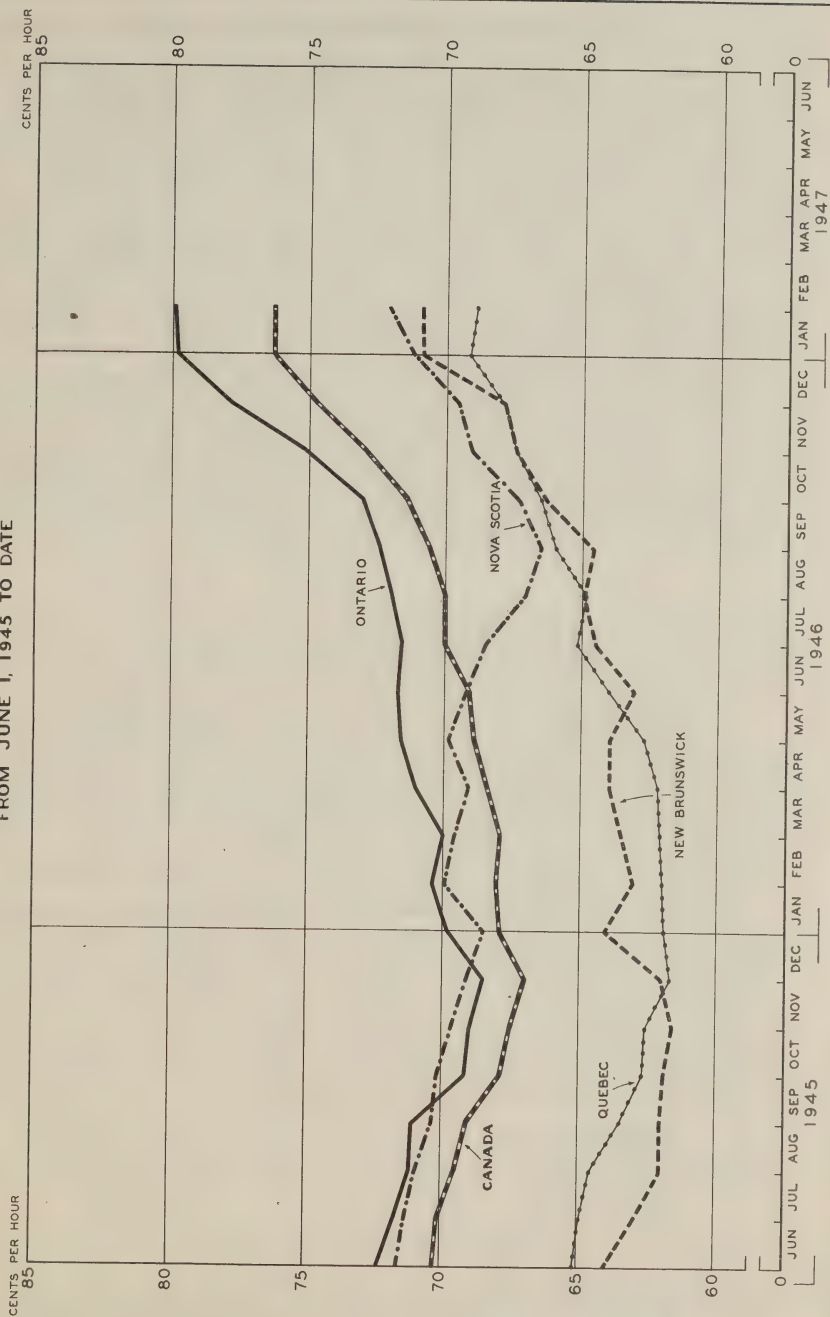
Grain shipments moved more freely in March and a continuation of this level of activity is expected until the close of the season.

Considerable construction activity is planned for this summer. The intended program will supply work for the many men now unplaced. The construction of badly needed homes and the renovation of the city's sidewalks and roads is planned. Visible results of increased activity will soon become evident. Already male unplaced applicants have declined by 300 since the lay-off at the shipyard.

# AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS OF WAGE EARNERS IN MANUFACTURING

NOVA SCOTIA - NEW BRUNSWICK - QUEBEC - ONTARIO

FROM JUNE 1, 1945 TO DATE



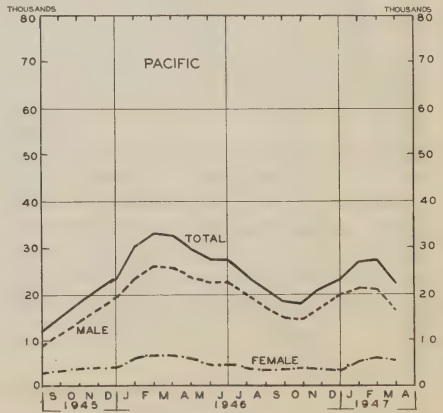
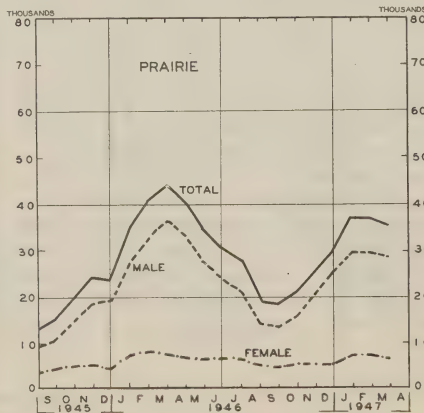
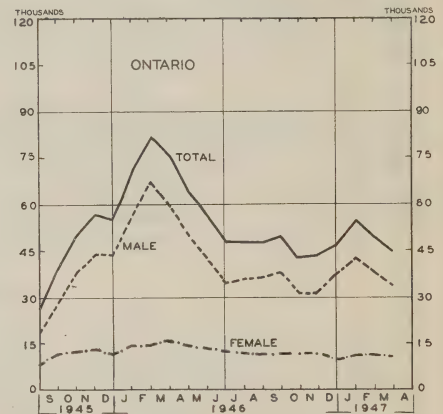
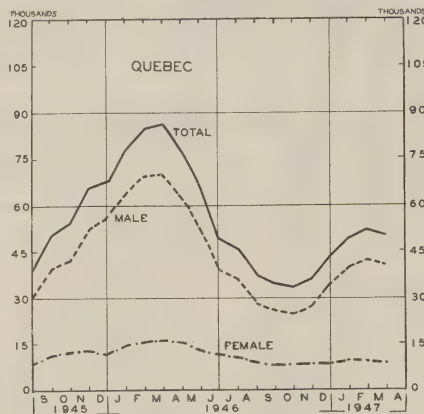
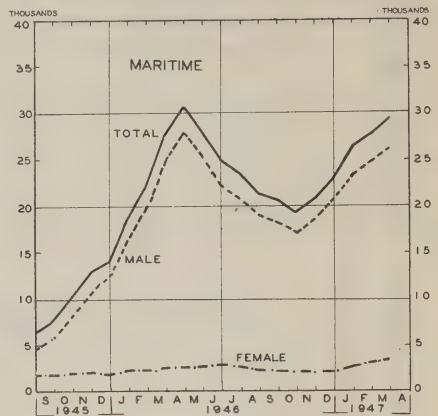
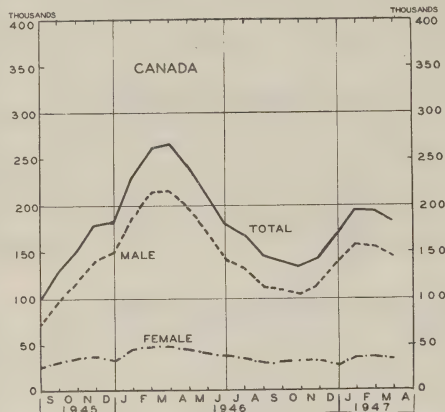
SOURCE: EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL STATISTICS BRANCH - D.B.S.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M-2-R-1

# REGIONAL UNPLACED APPLICANTS

AS REPORTED BY THE

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE





### New Glasgow - Pictou

All coal mines in the area are closed down due to the strike; wholesale and retail merchants report a resultant drop in business. To date, there have been no serious interruptions in electric services in the county, but economy measures are being practiced.

The use of American coal and an order for 2,000 box cars alleviated to a very great extent the unstable conditions in manufacturing last month, arising from the coal strike. The order for box cars will keep the Eastern Car Company busy for about one year. The material supply situation may, however, delay the start of this order until July.

Orders recently released to Canadian firms for 6,200 railroad cars should keep the axle department of Trenton Steel Works Limited busy for a long time, as this company supplies nearly all the axles used in Canada for rolling stock. These car orders also assure full employment at the Maritime Steel and Foundries Limited, and the Dominion Wheel and Foundries Ltd. It has been pointed out, however, that all the aforementioned companies are operating with American coal, and supplies on hand are not sufficient to warrant operation if incoming shipments should be cut-off. Further, if the coal strike should force the steel plant at Sydney to close, the effects would be felt immediately in this city.

### Sydney

If the coal strike is not settled within the next three weeks it is possible that the Sydney steel plant may be forced to close down. If this should happen the volume of unplaced applicants would swell to nearly nine thousand. This number, of course, does not include the 12,000 miners now on strike.

Retail and wholesale trade is being hard-hit by the sharp drop in consumer purchasing power. Another indication of the economic repercussions of the strike is that construction activity may be sharply curtailed if overall conditions do not improve. Many railway transportation workers are reported idle because coal haulage has been out greatly. The coal strike may lead to lay-offs in many manufacturing plants through a shortage of electrical power for operation.

The Sydney Steel Plant continues to operate full-time, with the exception of coke production. Coal supplies on hand are sufficient for only about three weeks operation. It will then be necessary to import American coal if the strike is not settled. If steel company employees either refuse to or are prevented from using American coal a lay-off would most certainly result. One optimistic sign is that American coal now is being used in the New-Glasgow region without any serious repercussions as yet.

Highway construction should provide jobs for upwards of 600 men. At present there are practically no vacancies for over 5,000 unplaced applicants.

### Saint John

The winter port and the trade and service industry will play ever increasing importance in this city's economy as employment in the iron and steel industry continues to decline. Construction work, which is at present supplying work for many men, is of short-term duration at best. New industry would most certainly solve the coming problem of a

decrease in construction work but, as yet, no large development has taken place. The shipbuilding industry, which plays such a large part in manufacturing employment, is not on a sound footing.

Currently, Saint John has enjoyed a very prosperous winter port season which was beneficial to total employment in the area, and in particular, to the trade and service industry. Truckers are still very busy but the expected slump in activities will probably start about the end of April.

The only large groups of unemployed were seamen, truck drivers, and unskilled labourers, who, alone, accounted for 73 per cent of all unplaced male applicants.

### Quebec Region

Trend of unplaced applicants edges downward in March—The peak number of unplaced applicants registered with the National Employment Service was reached at the end of February. March saw a decrease of 4 per cent in job applicants. Reported vacancies, however, also continued to decline as demand for men in the logging industry contracted. The drop in logging vacancies was greater than the decline in total vacancies, thus indicating growing demand for labour in other industries.

It is felt that wood cutting will not reach the estimated production increase of 15 per cent over last year because of thaws and rain during the month. Most of the farmers who worked the winter in the bush have returned to their farms to get ready for spring seeding. The middle of April will see the start of driving operations in most areas.

Upswing indicated in iron and steel manufacturing—Increased activity in iron and steel manufacturing is indicated. Canadian Car & Foundry in Montreal has received one-third of the Canadian National Railway's large order for box cars. Material is still a problem and full employment in the company is not expected until late summer. In shipbuilding, Canadian Vickers has found difficulty in securing first-class electric welders, sheet metal workers and highly skilled steamfitters. The company has brought in marine engineers from Great Britain. Rehiring activity in machine shops signals slowly increasing production, and foundries in the Montreal area seem to have overcome most of their material bottlenecks.

Construction boom in 1947 faces labour and material shortages—The great number and value of building permits for industrial and commercial construction, together with the plans for residential building, point to 1947 outstripping 1946 in construction activity. The Montreal employment officer remarks, "It is...open to guesswork as to whether labour or materials will present the greater problem." The shortage of bricklayers, masons and plasterers will be most acute.

Spring seasonal upswing begins—Work is beginning on public projects, highways and water-works, as well as on electrification projects and the large expansion program of the Bell Telephone. Many men will be required as work gets underway. Men in outlying districts, where job opportunities have been limited, will thus find employment.



The opening of the Port of Montreal to ocean-going vessels will result in the usual employment upswing. It will also contribute to the lessening freight car shortage which eased somewhat with the coming of mild weather.

Seasonal peak for manufacturers of women's garments may be only temporary—The month has seen a seasonal peak for manufacturers of women's garments. It is notable that secondary textiles continue to expand despite labour shortage. In some quarters, there is a feeling that production may be pushed too far and that the present level of activity cannot be maintained indefinitely. Sales must be watched carefully for signs of a downtrend.

#### Chicoutimi

Approximately 4,000 men are engaged in logging operations in the Chicoutimi area. An additional 300 are needed to fill present requirements. Hauling operations are almost completed and the river drive will commence shortly.

Employment in the aluminum industry is steadily increasing. This expansion is expected to continue for several months.

The construction industry is not very active at present, but many projects will be started as soon as the frost is out of the ground. Among the projects scheduled to start in April is the building of 60 private homes, the average cost of which is \$6,500.

Transportation, trade and services are maintaining high employment levels, with labour demand increasing as the spring season advances.

At the end of March, male unplaced applicants and unfilled vacancies showed an approximate numerical balance. However, all but 100 of the available jobs were for bushworkers, while applicants were, for the most part, carpenters, painters, and construction labourers. The majority of these workers will be placed within the next six weeks.

#### Montreal

Following the overall pattern in the province of Quebec, unplaced applicants in the Montreal local office area increased steadily from the beginning of January, reaching a peak at the end of February. Since that time the number of job seekers registered with National Employment Service offices has declined. Unplaced applicants at the end of March approximately equalled the January 30 total. This downward trend will, in all probability, continue throughout the spring and summer, with unplaced applicants reaching an annual low in the early fall.

Field reports indicate that the material supply situation, particularly in the secondary iron and steel manufacturing industries, is steadily improving. As a result, local steel-using firms are gradually increasing their staffs and stepping-up production levels.

The Canadian Car and Foundry has contracted to build 5,000 freight and passenger cars for the C.P.R. and C.N.R. Full employment is not expected to be reached until August, as the material supply situation is still a big problem.



As employment levels continue to move upward, the shortage of women will become increasingly acute, and the surplus supply of male applicants will be reduced to a minimum.

### Quebec

The sizable surplus of labour existing in the Quebec labour market area remained relatively unchanged during the past two months. However, as employment in construction, shipbuilding and agriculture is already beginning to pick up, the next two months should see a substantial reduction in the number of unplaced applicants.

Construction of a new fish processing plant at Beaulieu, a suburb of Quebec city, is already underway. It is expected that this plant will commence operations in May with an initial staff of 60, to be increased to approximately 110 by mid-summer.

On April 15, the St. Lawrence Metal and Marine Works Limited will start work on a new shipbuilding contract. Approximately 600 men will be hired for the job which is expected to take six months to complete.

Textile manufacturing and tobacco processing showed little change during March; labour demand in the shoe manufacturing industry was negligible as production continued to be held up by the shortage of hides.

A heavy surplus of workers exists in many occupations. Skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled construction workers are available in large numbers as well as office clerks, textile workers and service personnel. About 18 per cent of the unplaced applicants are veterans and 27 per cent are females.

### Shawinigan Falls

Employment in manufacturing in Shawinigan Chemicals Limited and Canadian Resins and Chemicals Limited, as arranged in decreasing numerical order is as follows, chemicals, carbide, plastics, and stainless steel. The Carbide division of Shawinigan Chemicals Limited is as yet chronically hampered by lack of steel barrels for shipping purposes. This shortage has resulted in fluctuations in production and employment. Canadian Resins and Chemicals Limited is enlarging its present plant producing "vinylite" plastic which is in ever-increasing demand. In order to secure an adequate supply of "plasticizer" which was formerly imported from the U.S.A., a new plant is in the process of construction which will be the only producer of dioctyl phthalate (plasticizer) in Canada.

The Shawinigan Water and Power Company now employs 1,200 men in construction work, a marked increase from this time last month.

Many loggers are returning from woods operations despite the fact that cutting will continue well into the summer. It is likely that many of these men are securing work in construction and agriculture, because as yet no increase is noted in the number of unplaced applicants.

### Sherbrooke

Taken on a yearly basis, the average monthly increase in reported employment in 1946 was .67 per cent. From January 1, 1946 to January 1, 1947 there was an increase of 8 per cent. During the year there were only two notable recessions in employment. In May 1946 employment declined

6.0 per cent because of a strike in the Patton Manufacturing Company. In December 1946 a 3.3 per cent decrease occurred which was due to the normal winter tapering-off of employment in construction and in secondary iron and steel plants.

Currently the anticipation of a marked female labour shortage in the textile mills has not developed. This is chiefly due to the fact that the Bruce Silk Company will not start operations until September, but is also attributable to the more even distribution of available labour amongst mills now in operation.

The iron and steel industry is short of skilled tradesmen. Efforts to secure men from outside points have been fruitless. As yet demand for unskilled labour is limited to replacements.

A revival of activity has occurred in retail and wholesale trade and in the construction industry.

### Three Rivers

Employment in the pulp and paper industry has shown a steady increase during the past year. Additional hiring is continuing at an accelerated pace as the spring season advances.

In the textile industry (predominately cotton manufacturing) a high level of production is being maintained. Skilled weavers, spinners and loom fixers are in constant demand.

Local shoe and glove manufacturers report that the supply situation is gradually improving. No major lay-offs occurred in the leather goods manufacturing industry during March.

Construction work, suspended during the winter months now has been resumed. Already the demand for bricklayers, plasterers, and tin-smiths exceeds the supply.

The navigation season is expected to open in the latter part of April. Hiring of stevedores and longshoremen has started in preparation for an anticipated heavy volume of port activity.

In spite of the general seasonal upswing in employment, there is little hope that the large number of unplaced applicants will be absorbed by local industry.

### Valleyfield

Manufacturing employment rose only slightly during 1946. The strike at Montreal Cottons Limited, which lasted from June 1, 1946 to September 9, 1946 caused not only an immediate drop in employment, but also retarded subsequent expansion in the textile industry. Many skilled workers left Valleyfield during the work stoppage and it has been extremely difficult for local employers to build up their depleted staffs to former levels.

Non-manufacturing gains were largely responsible for the 2.5 per cent increase in total reported employment between January 1, 1946 and January 1, 1947. Subsequent employment expansion in the construction industry did much to reduce the surplus male labour supply. As this industry becomes increasingly active, male unplaced applicants will be pared down to a minimum. The Foundation Company of Canada alone plans to take on 400 additional construction labourers within the next three weeks.

Women remain in short supply, particularly those experienced in the needle trades. The dearth of female help will become even more acute as seasonal demand for such workers as waitresses, hotel maids increases.



### Ontario Region

As the number of vacancies on file with N.E.S. offices continued on the spring upturn, applicants continued to decrease.

Uptrend of activity in agriculture and mining—Agriculture and mining are coming to the front of the stage as logging begins to make its exit. Demand for farm labour is increasing, but few workers are applying for such jobs. Much interest in immigrant farm labour is evident.

Shortage of experienced miners—The scarcity of experienced miners is a handicap to expansion in the mining industry. Labour demand (other than for drillers) from the gold mining industry is easily met locally. One experienced machine man, if available, would provide employment for two beginners. The demand for labour in base metal mining has been sustained. World requirements for base metals indicate a continuing steady demand for miners this year.

Peak cut in pulpwood and logging industries—The pulpwood and logging industries have completed one of the largest cuts in the history of the region. Hauling operations have, on the whole, been successful, with the exception of the Bracebridge area. There now are deferred orders for hundreds of river drivers placed with the National Employment offices.

Some of the smaller saw mills have already begun operations, but most will not open until May. Increased production will bring additional orders for saw mill workers, and a shortage of key men is feared. A lack of housing in many areas will complicate the referral of suitable men.

Material supply situation improves in some areas—Increased job opportunities in manufacturing reflect slight improvements in the general raw material situation. The record is spotty, however. Supplies are becoming easier to obtain in certain areas, not in others; certain plants find that the flow of production materials is smoother, other plants find the material situation just as bad. Oshawa is the notable "bad spot". General Motors' production is held up, with pressed steel being the chief shortage.

Boom construction program governed by supplies of labour and materials—The heavy 1947 program for construction work promises to exceed that of 1946. Work will start shortly as the frost is out of the ground, with the supply of materials and labour governing the speed with which work progresses. Cement is in short supply, as are nails, plumbing, and certain heating and electrical supplies. Lumber will probably fall short of demand as building increases.

### Brantford

The month of March saw the number of unplaced applicants in the Brantford labour market area reduced by one half. A marked increase in the number of job vacancies registered at the National Employment office also occurred during the past month.



As a result of the recent increase in sugar supplies, the confectionary manufacturing industry is stepping-up production. Correspondingly, demand for male and female workers has shown a marked increase of late.

Both textiles and wood products manufacturing report increased labour demand. But experienced operators are impossible to obtain locally.

Employment in the heavy machinery manufacturing industry continues to rise. Massey-Harris now are employing more men than during the peak war years. Although the tight labour situation has been somewhat relieved by the transfer-in of workers, particularly from the Windsor and Oshawa areas, skilled metal workers and labourers for farm implement plants are still in urgent demand.

With labour demand already exceeding supply, it is expected that the labour shortage in Brantford will reach serious proportions within the next few months.

#### Hamilton

According to a recently published report of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, Hamilton industries are reconverting and extending their plant facilities this year at a total cost of \$2,000,000. This large volume of construction, combined with employment increases in manufacturing industries (notably textiles, electrical apparatus, and primary and secondary iron and steel) and seasonal advances in other non-manufacturing industries, is rapidly changing Hamilton from a labour surplus area to one in which labour demand exceeds supply.

Shortages of steel and other basic supplies continue to slow up expansion rates in heavy machinery plants. The National Steel Car Corporation recently received an order for 3,400 transportation units from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company; as a result more than 100 employees were recalled to work. Offsetting this gain, a number of men were released temporarily because of material shortages in certain departments.

Many new industries are being established in this area. Among these - the Studebaker Corporation will be in operation by the end of the year. Hiring will start in July and it is expected that, by the beginning of 1948, the staff will total about 1,500. At present, both immediate and long term employment prospects for the Hamilton labour market area look very bright.

#### Kingston

The employment situation in the Kingston area has shown little change during the past month. Total unplaced applicants increased slightly, the rise in the number of male job seekers outweighing the decline in the number of female applicants.

The Kingston Shipbuilding Company recently laid-off 50 men and will be forced to cut down its staff still further unless shipments of steel are immediately forthcoming.

The Canadian Locomotive Company has completed a large number of its orders, but reports that there is sufficient work on hand to keep all workers occupied for several months to come.

The Aluminum Company has been constantly losing heavy labourers, as farmers and other part-time workers are leaving the plant to return to

their summer occupations. As production at the Aluminum Company is at a low level, no effort has been made to replace these men.

The next month will see an increase in labour demand as construction, road building and agriculture become more active.

#### Kitchener - Waterloo

Industry continues to operate at a high level. Employment is higher then at this time last year and could be considerably enlarged if it were not for the stringent housing situation.

The overall labour force will undoubtedly increase if a recession in consumer demand does not precede adequate housing construction. It has been pointed out that the rental for the houses now being constructed is too high for the salaries offered in many job vacancies. Many of the present working force are commuters. Except in a few cases where single workers are concerned, housing conditions have prevented any substantial influx of badly needed labour.

While overall demand for workers in many manufacturing groups is lighter than a year ago, demand in the furniture industry is still heavy. The rubber industry can still absorb many unskilled men and iron and steel plants could absorb a large number of skilled workers. Demand for female workers remains strong, in nearly every industry and is particularly high for sewing machine operators in the rubber, leather, and textile industries.

In non-manufacturing, demand for women for office work and for domestic work is high. For men, many job openings are available for construction workers, and garage mechanics. Demand for agricultural workers is continually increasing.

#### London

The decided improvement in the overall material supply situation is reflected in the current uptrend in manufacturing employment, and the fact that unfilled vacancies are on the uptrend as unplaced applicants edge downward.

The majority of firms in the heavy iron and steel manufacturing category report that for the first time in many months material supplies on hand are adequate and future deliveries assured.

Although the majority of manufacturing plants in the London area are rapidly nearing capacity, production, several firms which are dependent on the United States for supplies report that stocks on hand are extremely low. Imported glass and certain types of steel are in short supply. Unless deliveries are forthcoming immediately, lay-offs appear imminent.

In view of the heavy construction program outlined for the coming season, it is expected that there will be keen competition among local contractors for men and materials, both of which will be in extremely short supply.

At present male vacancies and applicants show an approximate numerical balance while female job seekers now outnumber vacancies by approximately four to one. All indications point to a tight manpower situation in the near future, similar to that which existed during the war years.



### Niagara Falls

Owing to exceptionally bad weather conditions during March the seasonal upswing of agriculture and construction in the Niagara Falls area has been delayed. Despite this set-back N.E.S. records showed only half as many unplaced applicants on file at the end of March 1947 as at the same time a year ago.

The majority of manufacturing firms in the area have increased their staffs during the past year, with the greatest employment increases taking place in the abrasives manufacturing industry.

All local building contractors have kept larger-than-usual off-season staffs busy during the winter months. In view of the extensive construction program planned for the coming season it is expected that skilled and unskilled workers in this industry will soon be in extremely short supply.

Currently the ratio of applicants to job vacancies is approximately three to one. However, the slight labour surplus will rapidly diminish as construction, tourist trade, and agriculture become more active.

### Oshawa

General Motors of Canada once again has been forced to cut down production and reduce its staff because of the critical shortage of steel and other basic materials. According to local office reports, by the end of April 1,000 men will have been released and lay-offs will continue for the next three or four months.

As yet local feeder plants have not been affected by recessions at General Motors. However, it is expected that staff reductions in the various automobile parts manufacturing plants will follow shortly.

The new garment manufacturing industry in Oshawa is rapidly expanding. The constant demand for female help is readily filled locally, as unskilled women are being hired and then trained at the plant.

The general employment outlook in Oshawa is not bright at the present time. No marked improvement will be evident until the steel shortage is alleviated.

### Peterborough

During 1946, reported employment in all industry showed an average gain of 1.07 per cent a net gain in overall reported employment of 12.8 per cent from January 1, 1946 to January 1, 1947.

In December, January, and February employment activities tapered off normally, but the latest information indicates renewed hiring of labour during March. For example, the De Laval Company Limited (dairy equipment) has put on an extra shift requiring 50 men, skilled and learners. In addition, Canadian General Electric has started to hire from three to ten men a day since the first of March. At the moment there is slight trouble with the electrical workers' union regarding a master agreement to cover all Toronto and Peterborough works. Negotiations are still amicable.



Construction work will soon start on a large plant for Canadian Nashua Paper. With this and other construction work, a shortage of skilled and unskilled construction workers will develop soon.

Shortages of material are still holding up production in most of the manufacturing plants, and in the construction industry.

#### St. Catharines

The upward trend in employment which first became evident at the end of January appears to be gaining momentum. There has been a steady decline in male and female job applicants. The number of persons applying for and receiving unemployment insurance has also dropped during the past three months.

The majority of textile firms in this area now are employing larger staffs than in pre-war times. Present production schedules call for still further expansion, although some difficulty will be experienced in obtaining both skilled operators and trainees.

Pulp and paper mills are operating at full capacity and have already started to take on additional yard labour to handle materials arriving by boat during the summer months.

Deliveries of steel and other materials have become more regular of late. As a result, local steel-using plants are stepping-up production and expanding staffs.

As the Spring season advances and job opportunities increase, the available labour supply is rapidly diminishing. Many farmers are giving up industrial employment to return to their farms, thus creating a critical shortage of unskilled labour.

#### Sault Ste. Marie

The only recession in overall employment last year occurred in the latter part of July and August. This was entirely due to the steel strike. The growth of employment in manufacturing during the past year was only slight, but this is attributable to the fact that the Algoma Steel Corporation, the largest employer in the city, is fully staffed and working at full capacity. The other large employer of labour in Sault Ste. Marie, the Abitibi Power and Paper Company, is also well staffed. Thus, while employment opportunities are small in manufacturing as a whole, the level of employment is such that unplaced applicants who have suitable qualifications are relatively few.

At the moment the city is flooded with transient workers who were engaged in extensive logging operations during the winter. There is very little outlet for these men until construction work gets underway. The transportation industry (rail and water), will also offer seasonal work for unskilled labourers. To date, however, it is not known how many of these men will remain in this area as many of them are from outside points.

#### Sudbury

The labour situation has changed very little from last month. Logging has practically ceased. There will be very little activity in this line until the river drives start and saw mills open up. Nearly

500 unskilled men are still required by local mines and an additional 190 could be absorbed in refining operations.

Out of the 870 male job applicants, 380 are registered as unskilled but almost all are medically unfit or physically incapable of performing this work. The season is not far enough advanced to permit any extensive construction work.

The International Nickel Company has evolved a new process of delivering nickel in sinter form direct to the steel industry. Construction of a new nine million dollar sintering smelter to be built at Copper Cliff is scheduled to start in May. About 500 construction workers will be required for the job. This work has been delayed for two years by material shortages.

### Toronto

During the past month a marked improvement was noted in the heavy metal trades. This upswing is primarily due to an increase in the supply of raw materials. Skilled metal workers are in constant demand, and the live file of suitable applicants is rapidly being depleted.

In the textile industry, the urgent need for skilled workers and trainees continues. Sewing machine operators are in particularly short supply. Vacancies for these workers are renewed month after month with very few placements being made.

Employment in food products, electrical apparatus and rubber products manufacturing continues on the upswing with a substantial labour demand.

There is every indication that the 1947 construction program will exceed that of 1946. While an abnormally large volume of construction has been carried out this winter, the bulk of work will start shortly when the frost is completely out of the ground.

Seasonal gains in manufacturing and non-manufacturing employment are reflected in the marked increase in job vacancies and the corresponding drop in unplaced applicants. As the employment situation continues to improve the serious shortage of female labour will become more acute, and the supply of certain types of male workers will fall short of demand.

### Welland

Seasonal expansion in manufacturing industry is showing a strong uptrend as the material supply situation continues to improve. This expansion is most noticeable in the electro-chemical manufacturing field. One large firm in the latter category increased its staff between January 1 and March 1, 1947.

During March, placements of male workers were most numerous in the following industries: chemicals manufacturing, secondary iron and steel, and textiles. In the female labour field the majority of placements were made in the retail trade and service industries.

A heavy commercial building program is planned for this spring. Expansion of existing plant facilities coupled with extensive private construction will provide jobs for all available qualified workers. The



construction of an extension to the Joseph Stokes Rubber Company plant is expected to be completed next fall. Fifty additional employees will then be required.

At present unplaced applicants outnumber vacancies by approximately two to one. Male job seekers are for the most part either under or over the age specifications, or are physically unqualified for the vacancies available. Many female applicants are married women, while the majority of job openings are for single girls.

### Windsor

Local employment conditions have improved substantially during the past month. Unplaced applicants dropped from 5,602 at February 27 to 5,147 at March 27, while average weekly placements during March were 116 compared with 107 during February.

The Ford Motor Company plans to take on 1,000 additional men during April. Consequently, local feeder plants are also gradually building up their staffs to keep up with Ford requirements.

At General Motors the present staff is more than double that of last year. However, despite the high level of employment, the majority of firms are on a four-day week, due to a shortage of materials. This short work week was put into effect on March 21 and will probably continue until August.

There has been little activity in the construction industry owing to adverse weather. But, conditions are expected to improve early in April. There is considerable unrest among building tradesmen at present, and a walkout is expected unless the demands for higher wages are met.

In general, labour market conditions have shown a marked improvement during March. This uptrend of employment is expected to continue for the next several months.

### Prairie Region

Labour market responds to seasonal upswing—Under the impetus of approaching spring the number of job applicants fell 4 per cent in March, the number of vacancies rising 29 per cent. Increasing orders for farm help are being filled with little difficulty. In certain areas the major part of the demand is for fully skilled tractor drivers and men with experience on power equipment. The return of farm workers from winter employment is proceeding normally.

Winter cutting is over in northwestern Ontario, but most of the large operators still are anxious to obtain pulpwood cutters. Excellent conditions have prevailed during the hauling season. There is little activity throughout the rest of the Region.

Uptrend of labour demand in mining—Experienced underground men are still required for gold mining. In base metal mining, an appreciable increase in labour demand is expected from Steep Rock



Iron Mines immediately before the opening of navigation on the Great Lakes. A greater number of ore cars are reported to be available for handling the year's production.

Slack season in meat packing industries—The normally quiet season in meat packing has been further emphasized by Provincial restrictions on heavy truck traffic during the spring break-up. The movement of livestock to market has been reduced. A few additional lay-offs of employees have occurred.

Dairy production up, stimulated by price decontrol orders—Recent price decontrol orders have stimulated dairy production. Increased cheese production is anticipated. Moderate additions in staff are expected.

Grain handling operations at the Lakehead showed an appreciable increase in March. There will be much greater activity with the opening of navigation after the middle of April. Terminal elevators will re-hire a number of workers who were released during the winter.

The extent to which the 1947 construction program exceeds that of 1946 depends on the material and labour situation. Materials will probably be in greater supply than last year, but demand will be heavy. Therefore, the ratio of supply to demand may be lower in 1947 than in 1946 and construction projects may accordingly proceed even more haltingly than last year.

#### Edmonton

Unplaced applicants and unfilled vacancies both are below last year's levels.

While a large surplus of all types of applicants still exists, indications are that a shortage of farm workers will develop as spring work opens up. It is anticipated that many of the jobs in road work will be taken by men who would normally work in agriculture.

While the large surplus of "white collar" workers may not diminish to any appreciable extent with the advent of summer, most of the able bodied men registered as unskilled labourers, truck drivers, and construction tradesmen, will probably be employed. During the past month 267 men have been sent to the bush, 25 to the Yukon Territory, and indications are that some 250 men will be needed in the Yellowknife area soon. Further, 100 men have been sent to work with local sawmills. Hundreds of men will soon be supplied for extra gang maintenance on railways.

Insofar as manufacturing is concerned, a few men are being placed regularly, but in the meat packing industry it is unlikely that any of the four major plants in Edmonton will require men before the first of September. Receipts of both hogs and cattle are down.

### Fort William and Port Arthur

Latest reports indicate an upswing in job vacancies which will gain considerable momentum when lake navigation opens on or about April 15. However, while hundred of jobs will open up soon, most of them will be in construction and transportation. Further, many of these jobs will be out of town.

Insofar as manufacturing is concerned, the Canadian Car and Foundry Company Ltd. is operating steadily and at a high level of employment. The Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company has received a temporary set-back by tardy material shipments, but has plenty of work on hand. Local pulp and paper mills are operating at full capacity but labour requirements are small. Despite the high level of activity in manufacturing, in its present state this industry cannot absorb any appreciable number of workers. Every effort is being made towards attracting industry to this area, which will in turn supply year-round employment.

Hundreds of men will be required for local and out-of-town construction jobs. Some 700 men now are working on a Hydro Electric Project on the Aguasabon river, 140 miles east of Fort William. This project will supply electrical power for the town and mill site now being erected by the Little Long Lac Paper Company at Terrace Bay. This latter project now employs 400 men and this number will probably swell to 900. The superintendent of the Hydro construction project stated that there is room for any man who is willing to work.

### Winnipeg

The overall level of employment in manufacturing is higher than at this time last year although job opportunities are light and some lay-offs are taking place because of material and work shortages.

As the situation stands at the moment unplaced applicants are gradually decreasing, but as agricultural and construction work will take considerable time to develop, no steep decline will take place until the season is fairly well advanced.

The main burden will again be placed on agriculture, to supply jobs for the many unplaced applicants who accumulate in this city in the search of work each year during the winter months.

Construction work, although curbed by material shortages, will soon absorb many men, both skilled and unskilled. Railways will require men for extra gang work. At the moment, the demand for both surface mine labourers and underground miners is brisk, with the latter group in short supply.

About 50 per cent of all male applicants are registered in job categories which, if the men concerned are willing, will give them some opportunity to work this summer in agriculture, construction, or transportation. Most of the remaining male applicants are registered as "white collar" workers and as truck drivers for whom job opportunities, as in other centres, are usually limited to the more highly skilled men.

### Pacific Region

#### Substantial upturn in labour demand from primary industries--

The change in the applicant-vacancy picture in the Pacific region has been relatively the greatest in Canada, with an 18 per cent decrease in the number of applicants, and a 53 per cent increase in the number of vacancies. The increase in labour demand came from the primary industries.

Orders for farm help are increasing. The dairy industry is still short of experienced hands. Improved weather conditions have led to additional employment in logging. However, the need for key personnel for woods and sawmill operations continues, with little indication of any improvement in supply. Mining, also, is suffering from the shortage of skilled men.

#### Celanese pulp plant to be built in Prince Rupert area--

One of the most important announcements concerning future industrial development was made in March by the Celanese Corporation of America. The company will build a \$15 million celanese pulp plant in the Prince Rupert area. The plant will be in production in about two years. The mill and woods operations are expected to employ about 1,000 men who will be hired in the local area, as far as possible. The pulp will be shipped by rail and by ship to the company's textile manufacturing plants on the Atlantic coast. Such a permanent industry means much to the area which experienced a substantial post-war drop in economic activity.

#### Material and manpower shortages curb manufacturing industry--

Shortages of various materials still fetter manufacturing industry. There is little doing in the foundries, but increased activity has been noticed in many of the engineering establishments. Shipbuilding continues at the usual rate of production, with occasional minor staff reductions because of intermittent shipments of steel. Currently, marine draughtsmen and ship joiners are in short supply; there also is a slight scarcity of steel shipwrights.

### Vancouver

At the end of March, 1947, unplaced applicants were only slightly higher than the number reached at the end of October, 1946, at which time the seasonal low in the number of unplaced applicants for last year was reached. If this decided margin on 1946 employment activity is kept up during the summer months, October, 1947, will probably see a new post-war low in the number of unplaced applicants. However, it is rather early to foresee just how many men will be absorbed by primary industry, which is largely responsible for the decline in registered job seekers. The problem of how many of the remaining applicants will be willing to perform the heavy labour required in primary industry must also be considered.

The recent employment gain is largely due to accelerated activity in construction and logging. New Westminster reports that construction has expanded to the point where further increase is



impossible because of both material and labour shortages. Indications point to a similar condition for the Vancouver office.

Logging camps and sawmills are in full swing, experiencing difficulty in securing skilled men, which in turn prevents the hiring of unskilled labour.

Mining activity, which was greatly retarded by labour disputes last year, will experience a considerable increase in production this year. All types of miners are required, with applicants very scarce.

# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

## A Key to the Area Tables

The area tables present statistical data on the labour market in 38 selected areas. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in each area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

The areas are classified according to the number of unplaced applicants registered with the local National Employment Service office. The classification is based on a ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 wage and salary workers at work.

An "unplaced applicant" at any particular moment is a person registered at a National Employment Service office who has either not been placed in a job or one for whom the Employment Service has had no notification of his obtaining a job on his own. It is obvious, therefore, that the number of unplaced applicants are not indicative of the total volume of unemployment in any area. In the first place, not all workers who are seeking jobs will register with the Employment Service. It is probable that most of those covered by unemployment insurance will do so in order to collect unemployment insurance benefits if their period of unemployment is sufficiently long. Many workers, however, do not come within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Act. In the second place, some workers who register with the Employment Service may be wanting merely to change jobs. At the time of registration, therefore, these workers would be already employed. In the third place, Employment Service regulations provide that when a worker registers for a job another contact need not necessarily be made with him by the employment service until 30 days have passed. If the worker obtains a job on his own during this period, the employment service may not be notified of this. In other words, a worker may still be counted as an unplaced applicant despite the fact that he now has a job. Finally, a worker may register for work at more than one local employment office. There is the possibility then, that the same person may be counted twice as an unplaced applicant.

These qualifications in the meaning of the term "unplaced applicant" should be clearly borne in mind by any person who makes use of the term. They are due to the fact that the principal function of the N.E.S. is to match jobs to workers, not to collect statistics. They do not, however, render such statistics useless. At present, there is no statistical information available on the total volume of unemployment by area. This being the case, the number of workers registered with a local Employment Service Office and not placed in a job is a very important fact to consider when evaluating labour market conditions in a particular area. It is in this spirit that figures on unplaced applicants are presented in the following tables.

In order to ascertain the relative level of unplaced applicants in various local office areas, this figure has been related to an estimate of the total number of wage and salary workers at work in each area. In other words, the number of unplaced applicants is compared with the size of the particular area as measured by the number of wage and salary workers at work.

In addition these ratios have been consolidated into four groups denoting four different general labour market situations, as follows:

Group I—Areas in which there are more than 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties".

Group II—Areas in which there are between 150 and 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group is characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III—Areas in which there are from 50 to 150 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV—Areas in which there are under 50 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Favourable, in the sense that it is comparable to conditions during the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be clearly understood that the above ratio is only a general method of classifying labour market conditions as they are pictured by the local Employment Service office. The ratio attempts to do no more than that. It attempts to do just that because it is felt that labour market conditions in a particular local employment service office are an important fact in the overall employment situation.

The area tables present additional material relative to the current demand and supply picture. Definitions of some of the terms used are given below:

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities insofar as employers do not report vacancies to Employment Service. "Jobs available during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but should indicate the trend of labour demand in comparison with figures for previous periods.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the Employment Service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer to the Employment Service.

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Note:

Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Pointe-aux-Trembles,

St. Paul l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney, Sydney Mines.

Calgary includes: Black Diamond.



# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

AS AT APRIL 3, 1947

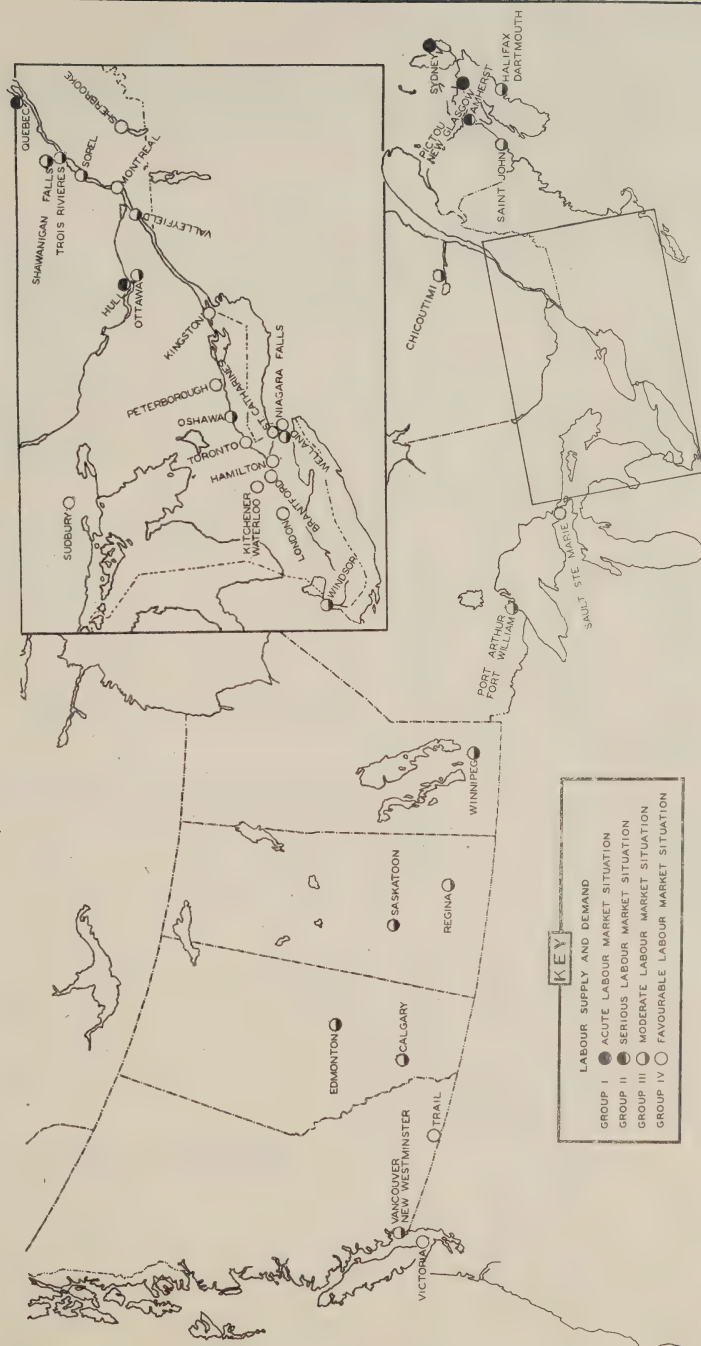




Table I--Index of Areas Analyzed in this Section

Note: The thirty-eight areas below are arranged according to the number of unplaced applicants in each as at April 3, in descending order. Comparable ratings are also given for two previous selected dates.

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		Jan. 30, 1947	Feb. 27, 1947	Apr. 3, 1947
	<u>Population of 100,000 and over:</u>			
59	Quebec .....	III	II	II
66	Windsor .....	II	III	III
63	Ottawa .....	III	III	III
66	Winnipeg .....	III	III	III
68	Vancouver .....	III	III	III
61	Hamilton .....	IV	IV	IV
58	Montreal .....	IV	IV	IV
65	Toronto .....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 50,000 to 100,000:</u>			
57	Sydney .....	II	I	I
56	Halifax .....	III	III	III
66	Regina .....	III	III	III
61	Fort William - Port Arthur .	III	III	III
67	Calgary .....	III	III	III
57	Saint John .....	III	III	III
67	Edmonton .....	IV	III	III
62	London .....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 25,000 to 50,000:</u>			
58	Hull .....	III	II	II
60	Three Rivers .....	III	III	III
63	Oshawa .....	III	III	III
67	Saskatoon .....	IV	III	III
68	Victoria .....	IV	IV	IV
62	Kingston .....	IV	IV	IV
64	St. Catharines .....	IV	III	IV
64	Peterborough .....	IV	IV	IV
65	Sudbury .....	IV	IV	IV
59	Sherbrooke .....	IV	IV	IV
61	Brantford .....	IV	IV	IV
62	Kitchener-Waterloo .....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of under 25,000:</u>			
57	New Glasgow - Pictou .....	I	I	I
56	Amherst .....	II	II	II
60	Valleyfield .....	III	III	III
59	Shawinigan Falls .....	III	III	III
60	Sorel .....	III	III	III
58	Chicoutimi .....	III	III	III
65	Welland .....	III	III	III
68	Trail .....	IV	IV	IV
63	Niagara Falls .....	IV	IV	IV
64	Sault Ste. Marie .....	IV	IV	IV



Item	Canada			Amherst			Halifax		
	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	63	67	362	180	171	388	95	85	42
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	72,720	74,599	84,381	4	56	66	1,054	796	1,247
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	114,749	107,455	-	18	125	-	1,586	1,501
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	189,348	191,836	-	74	191	-	2,382	2,743
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	50,806	50,505	-	30	163	-	727	482
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	74,858	76,990	-	72	69	-	745	1,189
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	81,814	72,720	76,884	3	4	6	1,006	1,054	1,283
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	194,766	193,636	233,145	546	486	1,042	3,733	3,847	1,857
% female.....	19.5	19.2	19.5	17.2	20.2	24.1	13.0	16.5	17.7
% veterans.....	31.4	31.8	31.0	46.2	43.8	32.5	44.3	41.7	37.8
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more....	24.0	22.3	21.6	38.8	35.8	28.5	29.9	24.7	14.4
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	11.4	11.6	-	8.4	6.8	-	14.9	16.9	-
% 20 - 44 " .....	60.7	60.7	-	70.3	69.0	-	66.3	64.6	-
% 45 - 64 " .....	20.3	19.2	-	16.7	18.5	-	14.0	14.4	-
% over 65 " .....	7.7	8.5	-	4.6	5.7	-	4.8	4.1	-
2. Applicants registered during month....	-	132,923	158,329	-	211	333	-	2,134	1,719
3. Total workers available during month..	-	326,559	391,474	-	697	1,375	-	5,981	3,576
% referred.....	-	25.8	20.3	-	6.5	10.4	-	20.5	29.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	182,139	194,766	263,532	575	546	967	4,193	3,733	1,973
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	2,886	2,888	2,667	-	3,200	2,700	-	44,000	47,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	34.94	31.97	-	-	-	-	33.05	28.63
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	17,598	16,572	-	1	1	-	56	88

Note:—Figures for Canada re wage and salary workers are in thousands.

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	New Glasgow and Pictou			Sydney			Saint John		
	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed).....	473	453	327	313	305	206	72	78	60
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	28	68	65	187	154	448	615	490	731
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	335	554	-	395	450	-	1,123	977
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	403	617	-	549	898	-	1,613	1,708
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	286	465	-	313	424	-	673	471
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	55	58	-	57	106	-	372	843
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	73	28	100	151	187	390	534	615	814
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	2,810	2,747	2,283	5,788	5,210	3,237	2,251	2,212	1,533
% female.....	8.8	7.2	11.3	10.6	10.2	14.0	9.1	10.3	11.2
% veterans.....	43.5	41.7	24.7	46.8	48.7	41.3	50.1	44.8	46.7
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	40.5	38.1	19.4	41.6	43.4	30.7	43.9	25.7	25.3
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	7.3	6.6	-	13.2	13.5	-	14.3	15.6	-
% 20 - 44.....	69.5	69.3	-	71.1	71.9	-	65.6	63.2	-
% 45 - 64.....	18.3	19.0	-	11.3	10.1	-	13.7	14.3	-
% over 65.....	4.9	5.1	-	4.4	4.5	-	6.4	6.9	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	908	1,063	-	1,723	1,667	-	1,585	1,310
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	3,655	3,346	-	6,933	4,904	-	3,797	2,863
% referred.....	-	14.9	15.6	-	9.4	10.3	-	26.9	26.9
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	2,933	2,810	2,616	5,946	5,788	3,901	2,073	2,251	1,673
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	6,200	8,000	-	19,000	18,900	-	28,700	27,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30.38	29.18
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	38	21	-	22	22	-	133	14

(x) Figures subject to revision.

Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed) ..	65	64	58.6	169	159	102	33	29	91
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	2,043	2,166	2,655	162	520	499	14,067	14,159	13,958
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,141	811	-	281	260	-	14,363	10,204
3. Total jobs available during month....	-	3,307	3,376	-	801	759	-	28,522	24,162
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	67	118	-	118	97	-	4,155	2,288
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	594	1,405	-	359	492	-	15,350	14,358
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	426	2,043	1,339	273	162	448	13,956	14,067	13,497
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	546	457	3,050	1,783	1,572	948	18,966	17,140	35,782
% female.....	26.2	31.3	11.1	28.5	27.4	11.7	11.7	12.3	14.9
% veterans.....	7.1	7.0	4.1	27.1	29.4	27.1	19.5	19.6	17.6
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more....	4.9	4.6	2.9	24.1	27.5	20.1	11.9	10.5	11.3
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	14.7	16.5	-	14.5	14.5	-	8.0	8.6	-
% 20 - 44 " .....	61.3	54.8	-	64.5	64.0	-	55.4	54.9	-
% 45 - 64 " .....	17.2	20.9	-	15.8	15.3	-	26.6	20.7	-
% over 65 " .....	6.8	7.8	-	5.2	6.2	-	10.0	15.8	-
2. Applicants registered during month....	-	441	1,165	-	699	711	-	17,024	24,095
3. Total workers available during month..	-	898	4,166	-	2,271	1,659	-	34,164	59,878
% referred.....	-	13.6	4.1	-	9.2	8.0	-	24.8	11.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	350	546	2,930	1,889	1,783	1,137	15,936	18,956	39,994
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	8,500	5,000	-	11,200	11,100	-	487,500	441,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33.84	31.81
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	125	53	-	32	13	-	2,278	4,650

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	168	169	260	90	96	199	23	26	40
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	1,093	841	1,383	81	41	60	133	167	330
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,942	1,933	-	455	55	-	495	574
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	2,783	3,316	-	496	115	-	562	904
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	842	805	-	347	65	-	347	345
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	1,629	2,599	-	327	317	-	577	625
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	1,084	1,093	1,025	94	81	22	207	133	324
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	11,224	11,105	16,099	1,032	1,128	2,116	532	604	762
% female.....	23.5	27.2	31.7	31.6	39.6	10.8	17.9	18.5	8.3
% veterans.....	16.8	18.0	10.6	5.1	3.8	2.2	16.0	16.6	27.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	14.4	14.5	7.4	4.1	3.1	0.7	11.3	7.6	18.5
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	14.7	14.9	-	12.5	16.6	-	20.9	20.9	-
% 20 - 44 "	67.8	68.0	-	61.8	61.4	-	56.4	55.6	-
% 45 - 64 "	13.2	12.4	-	11.7	9.4	-	16.5	17.5	-
% over 65 "	4.3	4.7	-	14.0	12.6	-	6.2	6.0	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	3,932	4,325	-	625	293	-	643	698
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	15,037	20,424	-	1,753	2,409	-	1,247	1,460
% referred.....	-	11.8	7.7	-	23.6	2.4	-	41.5	36.2
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	11,162	11,224	16,450	963	1,032	2,071	456	532	750
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	66,400	63,300	-	10,700	10,400	-	20,200	19,700
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	28.72	27.40	-	-	-	-	29.72	26.10
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	314	305	-	16	93	-	126	70

(x) Figures subject to revision.

Item	Sorel			Three Rivers			Valleyfield		
	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	73	93	381	114	117	110	109	132	196
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	73	69	42	123	112	527	304	250	187
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	348	192	-	384	590	-	471	299
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	417	234	-	496	1,117	-	721	486
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	270	183	-	184	208	-	223	226
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	185	-	-	466	557	-	156	116
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	131	73	15	144	123	170	480	304	166
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	846	889	2,466	3,855	3,972	3,381	808	807	933
% female.....	14.9	12.6	7.9	16.7	17.0	24.8	16.7	13.1	8.1
% veterans.....	7.3	5.8	-	11.8	12.9	8.0	8.8	10.7	9.5
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	5.8	4.8	-	10.4	10.1	6.7	7.3	8.1	4.0
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	14.2	15.6	-	19.7	18.8	-	12.5	9.8	-
% 20 - 44 "	59.8	62.5	-	63.2	65.0	-	63.7	63.8	-
% 45 - 64 "	20.9	14.9	-	12.3	11.7	-	16.7	19.4	-
% over 65 "	5.1	7.0	-	4.8	4.5	-	7.1	7.0	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	539	620	-	751	1,236	-	432	718
3. Total workers available during month...	-	1,428	3,086	-	4,723	4,617	-	1,239	1,651
% referred.....	-	21.7	5.9	-	7.4	8.4	-	18.8	18.2
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	628	846	2,553	3,735	3,855	3,374	667	808	1,155
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	8,600	6,700	-	32,900	30,600	-	6,100	5,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	32.87	30.13	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	11	6	-	44	25	-	-	11

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Brantford			Ft. William & Pt. Arthur			Hamilton		
	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)....	15	31	41	81	94	204	37	42	77
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	440	476	488	1,965	2,019	2,115	1,616	1,612	1,494
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	649	943	-	2,304	2,202	-	2,805	2,667
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	1,125	1,431	-	4,323	4,317	-	4,617	4,161
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	272	419	-	971	1,169	-	1,552	1,205
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	562	666	-	2,722	1,456	-	1,996	2,615
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	712	440	542	2,166	1,965	2,076	2,608	1,616	1,701
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	537	572	758	2,077	2,339	3,813	3,882	4,383	6,137
% female.....	31.5	33.7	39.6	27.6	24.9	28.5	22.8	19.9	21.0
% veterans.....	22.7	21.9	18.3	22.3	24.8	20.0	30.7	28.0	25.8
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	17.9	13.6	9.2	12.6	13.9	9.8	18.7	14.7	17.7
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	9.5	11.0	-	10.4	10.4	-	8.5	10.3	-
% 20 - 44 ".....	46.9	48.3	-	59.6	64.8	-	54.8	53.7	-
% 45 - 64 ".....	27.0	26.0	-	20.4	16.6	-	24.8	24.7	-
% over 65 ".....	16.6	14.7	-	9.6	8.2	-	11.9	11.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	407	866	-	1,450	2,515	-	3,228	4,214
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	979	1,624	-	3,789	6,328	-	7,611	10,351
% referred.....	-	37.4	39.1	-	24.1	22.2	-	45.4	28.8
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	259	537	691	1,801	2,077	4,403	3,418	3,882	6,242
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	17,100	16,800	-	22,100	21,400	-	22,000	21,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	36.52	34.61	-	36.12	34.21
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	-	20	-	94	48	-	293	361

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Kingston			Kitchener - Waterloo			London		
	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	43	40	38	4	4	5	28	36	50
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	191	218	250	1,069	933	1,160	1,181	1,104	1,022
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	751	767	-	1,341	1,473	-	2,019	2,252
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	969	1,017	-	2,274	2,633	-	3,123	3,274
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	528	471	-	379	480	-	997	1,162
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	203	197	-	783	796	-	696	1,019
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	359	191	243	1,252	1,069	1,150	1,564	1,181	1,016
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	724	737	587	143	228	168	1,244	1,310	1,525
% female.....	31.5	33.5	30.0	13.3	10.1	23.2	12.1	15.8	15.1
% veterans.....	27.8	29.6	30.0	27.3	28.9	27.4	36.6	40.5	35.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	25.1	25.5	25.7	20.3	14.0	4.2	19.9	20.7	19.7
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years .....	25.0	24.1	-	18.9	12.4	-	14.1	16.2	-
% 20 - 44 " .....	52.1	51.4	-	51.7	46.8	-	46.9	52.2	-
% 45 - 64 " .....	15.5	15.1	-	14.7	20.1	-	25.2	19.1	-
% over 65 " .....	7.4	9.4	-	14.7	20.7	-	13.8	12.5	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	941	854	-	478	591	-	1,512	1,984
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	1,678	1,441	-	706	759	-	2,822	3,509
% referred.....	-	47.2	56.2	-	90.1	102.0	-	70.1	55.8
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	789	724	670	148	143	176	955	1,244	1,491
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	18,200	17,600	-	38,100	34,900	-	34,400	29,800
2. Per capital weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	33.69	29.67	-	32.64	30.01
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	44	74	-	239	168	-	707	169

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	33	41	51	103	103	530	86	80	66
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	197	132	118	238	232	381	967	877	1,290
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	386	463	-	569	413	-	1,746	1,868
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	518	581	-	801	794	-	2,623	3,158
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	190	135	-	410	245	-	746	733
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	236	312	-	194	480	-	1,501	2,199
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	190	197	278	378	238	305	1,105	967	1,308
workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	652	696	693	1,912	1,928	6,474	4,899	4,547	3,134
% female.....	25.5	21.8	21.5	41.0	45.0	33.9	46.7	43.4	16.0
% veterans.....	22.5	25.9	32.0	24.9	24.0	13.5	24.1	25.4	37.9
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	15.0	12.6	21.4	16.7	15.8	4.4	16.9	18.1	26.0
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	17.2	17.2	-	16.1	15.0	-	9.9	10.1	-
% 20 - 44 ".....	48.6	48.7	-	63.6	64.6	-	60.9	59.0	-
% 45 - 64 ".....	20.4	20.2	-	15.5	16.3	-	22.4	23.2	-
% over 65 ".....	13.8	13.9	-	4.8	4.1	-	6.8	7.7	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	433	555	-	891	1,276	-	2,983	3,419
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	1,123	1,248	-	2,819	7,750	-	7,530	6,553
% referred.....	-	33.2	23.8	-	22.6	4.6	-	25.0	28.6
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	519	652	851	1,913	1,912	6,570	5,259	4,899	3,719
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	15,800	16,600	-	18,600	12,400	-	61,200	56,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30.65	27.91
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	50	69	-	13	32	-	315	231

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Peterborough			St. Catharines			Sault Ste. Marie		
	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)....									
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	36	34	40	39	52	139	31	35	47
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	257	307	337	262	218	225	613	645	622
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	556	424	-	888	684	-	344	466
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	863	761	-	1,106	909	-	989	1,088
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	379	271	-	527	491	-	287	216
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	319	247	375	437	425	123	-	163	326
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	804	822	644	1,543	1,699	3,014	545	512	666
% female.....	4.5	6.0	12.3	35.9	34.5	33.2	60.2	63.1	60.2
% veterans.....	45.3	44.9	43.3	23.1	25.9	15.9	7.5	8.4	6.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	37.6	31.1	34.5	17.1	16.6	10.7	7.5	8.4	6.2
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	12.4	15.3	-	11.7	13.1	-	19.8	15.3	-
% 20 - 44 ".....	58.1	57.0	-	62.5	62.5	-	58.9	65.7	-
% 45 - 64 ".....	20.8	19.5	-	19.0	17.7	-	13.0	10.9	-
% over 65 ".....	8.7	8.2	-	6.8	6.7	-	8.3	8.1	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	654	559	-	1,017	1,543	-	448	455
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	1,476	1,203	-	2,716	4,557	-	960	1,121
% referred.....	-	40.1	37.2	-	37.8	16.6	-	32.5	21.9
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	850	804	852	1,137	1,543	3,567	485	545	696
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	23,800	21,500	-	29,500	25,600	-	15,600	14,700
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	23	31	-	45	72	-	34	41

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Sudbury			Toronto			Welland		
	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	35	37	77	18	25	46	55	70	219
Jobs:									
1.Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	577	868	754	15,194	13,999	9,359	261	208	223
2.Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,442	1,284	-	19,797	17,843	-	576	489
3.Total jobs available during month.....	-	2,310	2,038	-	33,796	27,502	-	784	712
4.Jobs filled by referral.....	-	852	852	-	6,106	7,658	-	314	211
5.Jobs filled without referral.....	-	897	718	-	10,261	8,411	-	192	158
6.Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	1,128	577	535	18,254	15,194	10,566	279	261	316
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	1,167	1,290	2,087	9,976	11,514	16,153	703	734	1,631
% female.....	27.6	26.7	27.0	9.2	9.2	7.6	42.0	41.4	56.1
% veterans.....	21.0	21.5	18.4	41.1	42.6	45.2	17.4	15.9	10.1
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	13.6	13.1	9.9	24.7	19.3	24.3	7.8	6.5	6.1
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	20.1	17.2	-	16.9	6.2	-	12.6	16.2	-
% 20 - 44 " .....	54.8	52.1	-	58.0	54.6	-	58.9	56.6	-
% 45 - 64 " .....	15.6	19.2	-	18.2	25.5	-	19.8	17.3	-
% over 65 " .....	9.5	11.5	-	6.9	13.7	-	8.7	9.9	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,264	1,095	-	12,221	15,096	-	495	1,011
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	2,554	3,182	-	23,735	31,249	-	1,229	2,642
% referred.....	-	44.9	32.7	-	46.0	36.1	-	46.6	9.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	1,116	1,167	2,006	7,145	9,976	16,923	552	703	2,147
Employment:									
1. Age and salary workers, first of month	-	31,600	25,900	-	395,000	368,100	-	10,000	9,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	35.42	32.39	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	-	27	-	3,933	2,535	-	4	8

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...									
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	218	147	397	2,261	2,327	2,498	446	371	551
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,120	1,444	-	4,730	4,290	-	1,603	1,368
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	1,267	1,841	-	7,057	6,788	-	1,974	1,919
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	786	1,197	-	3,085	2,765	-	1,216	1,083
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	1,141	664	-	1,898	2,482	-	492	594
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	317	218	370	2,753	2,261	2,192	564	446	539
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	5,602	7,430	12,734	12,258	12,903	12,192	2,773	2,702	2,177
% female.....	31.6	24.3	18.9	23.7	22.8	23.2	17.7	25.1	26.2
% veterans.....	29.1	32.5	19.2	37.3	39.9	36.0	43.6	40.5	50.1
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	26.8	28.6	16.1	26.1	28.2	24.2	40.3	37.1	39.8
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	12.4	11.1	-	9.9	10.8	-	13.7	18.1	-
% 20 - 44 ".....	64.9	66.9	-	64.1	63.6	-	62.5	61.6	-
% 45 - 64 ".....	18.9	18.3	-	18.5	17.8	-	18.9	16.0	-
% over 65 ".....	3.8	3.7	-	7.5	7.8	-	4.9	4.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	2,275	7,874	-	7,469	7,730	-	2,141	2,223
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	9,705	20,608	-	20,372	19,922	-	4,843	4,400
% referred.....	-	17.2	8.6	-	25.2	23.2	-	38.9	40.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	5,137	5,602	17,165	11,520	12,258	13,928	2,510	2,713	2,395
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	50,700	47,400	-	137,700	128,100	-	30,400	27,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	42.94	42.12	-	32.41	29.97	-	31.51	29.20
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	98	664	-	1,692	337	-	632	68

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar.(x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	54	57	55	80	84	109	64	64	80
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	390	315	517	516	464	643	670	757	1,268
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	686	844	-	1,534	1,471	-	2,540	2,564
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	1,001	1,361	-	1,998	2,114	-	3,297	3,832
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	388	422	-	1,046	986	-	1,697	1,740
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	397	575	-	689	1,065	-	969	1,229
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	582	390	609	786	516	754	737	670	1,138
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	2,306	2,273	2,031	4,051	4,342	4,162	4,497	4,315	4,303
% female.....	26.0	26.1	22.2	21.0	19.6	16.8	18.7	18.9	16.2
% veterans.....	38.1	36.2	38.0	43.6	44.4	42.5	43.0	41.6	46.1
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	31.2	28.2	21.3	35.2	34.9	25.2	30.2	21.8	22.7
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	13.6	13.1	-	9.4	10.2	-	9.7	11.5	-
% 20 - 44 ".....	61.8	62.8	-	57.7	59.3	-	62.2	57.8	-
% 45 - 64 ".....	19.2	17.9	-	23.8	22.0	-	21.5	23.5	-
% over 65 ".....	5.4	6.2	-	9.1	8.5	-	6.6	7.2	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,295	1,572	-	2,564	3,190	-	3,937	4,211
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	3,568	3,603	-	6,906	7,352	-	8,252	8,514
% referred.....	-	20.0	25.4	-	25.0	22.8	-	31.6	28.5
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	2,193	2,306	2,128	3,888	4,051	4,848	4,453	4,497	5,198
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	40,800	38,400	-	48,300	44,600	-	70,000	64,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	30.87	27.76	-	33.06	31.94	-	31.64	30.05
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	33	47	-	433	476	-	164	197

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Trail			Vancouver			Victoria		
	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946	Mar. (x) 1947	Feb. 1947	Feb. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	39	44	64	76	97	137	47	47	77
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	57	88	58	2,563	2,127	3,755	534	459	713
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	134	96	-	8,059	8,503	-	1,370	1,930
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	222	154	-	10,186	12,258	-	1,829	2,648
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	133	85	-	3,698	4,200	-	878	970
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	45	11	-	7,553	6,421	-	627	748
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	159	57	32	3,765	2,563	3,949	819	534	909
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	422	428	469	19,246	19,121	21,930	2,222	2,297	3,368
% female.....	36.0	36.2	56.7	20.5	20.0	20.2	24.9	22.9	16.1
% veterans.....	23.2	22.9	14.7	34.1	34.5	31.4	35.6	37.3	39.9
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	11.6	15.9	10.2	26.5	24.4	20.3	24.7	25.2	20.6
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	10.7	11.1	-	8.5	9.6	-	11.8	9.8	-
% 20 - 44 " .....	65.9	63.5	-	55.5	56.1	-	43.4	45.9	-
% 45 - 64 " .....	17.5	18.5	-	27.2	25.6	-	28.6	28.0	-
% over 65 " .....	5.9	6.9	-	8.8	8.7	-	16.2	16.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	319	224	-	13,915	13,606	-	1,643	1,724
3. Total workers available during month...	-	747	693	-	33,036	35,536	-	3,940	5,092
% referred.....	-	20.2	12.6	-	21.5	20.2	-	30.8	23.5
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	372	422	523	15,059	19,246	24,208	2,212	2,222	3,310
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	9,500	8,200	-	198,100	177,000	-	47,500	42,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	34.94	33.00	-	33.75	31.51
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	8	3	-	2,083	3,142	-	290	371

X Figures subject to revision.







Lacking V. 3, No. 4 (April 1997)



# Canadian

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# LABOUR MARKET

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

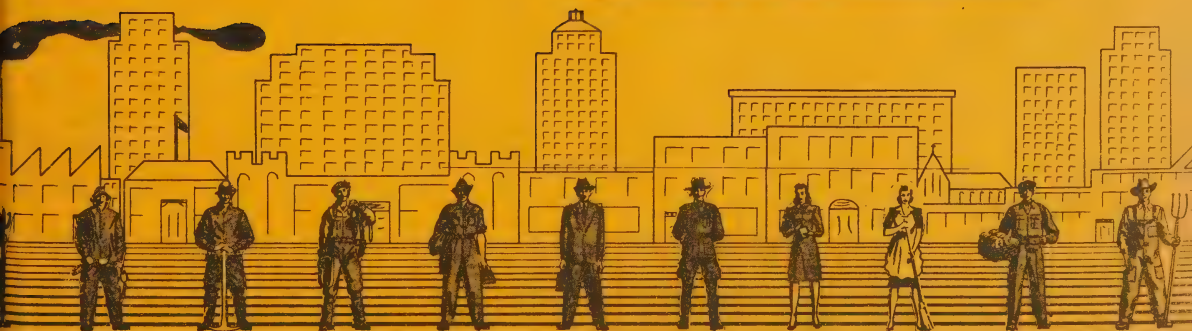
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1947

SPECIAL ARTICLE THIS MONTH.....

LABOUR METRICS FILE # 1  
- DOMESTIC SERVANTS -  
THE PROBLEM AND SOME ANSWERS

Government  
Publications







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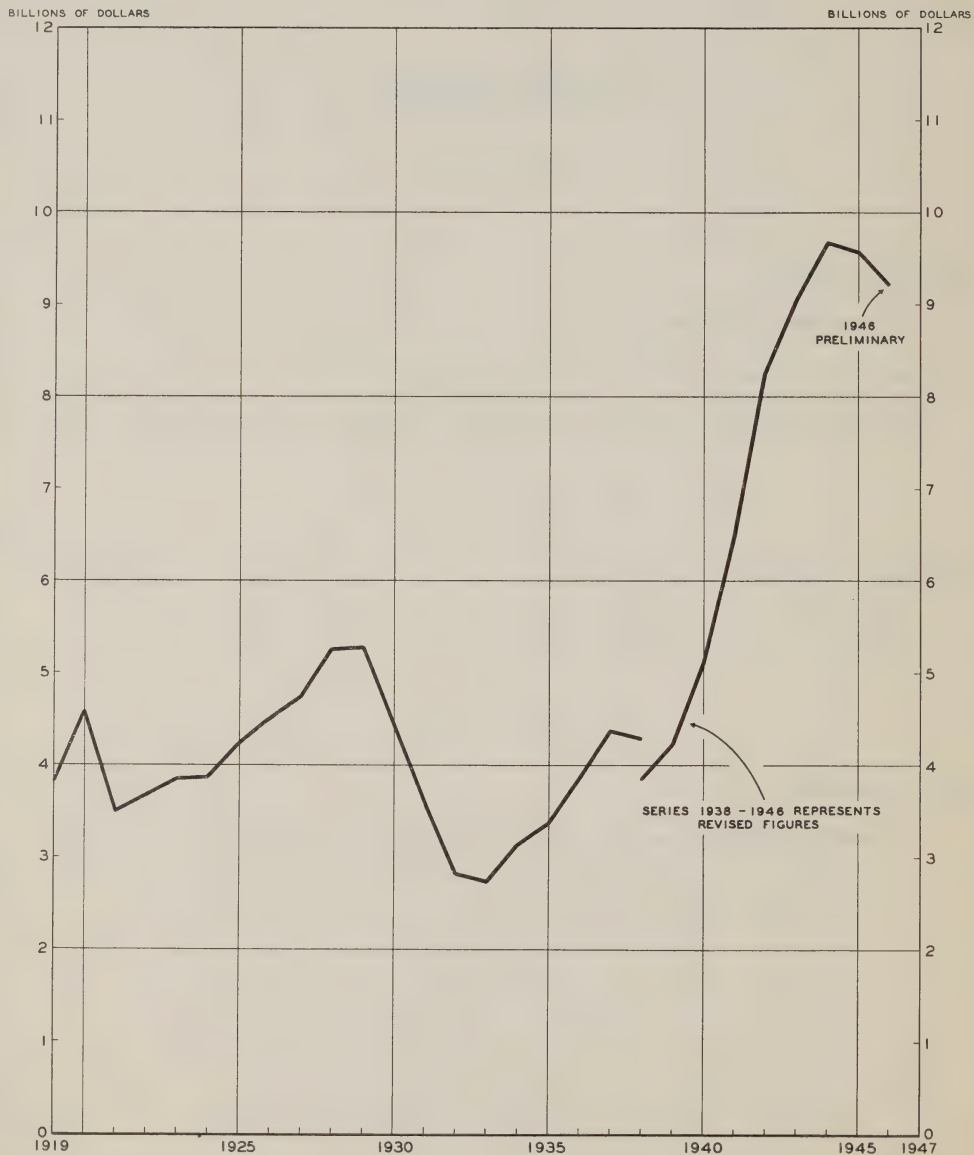
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# NATIONAL INCOME OF CANADA

1919 - 1947





## THE MANPOWER PICTURE

The beginning of 1947 saw the Canadian economy prepared to make full use of the greatly expanded industrial plant which had been developed during the war years.

Physical reconversion of plants to the production of peacetime goods, and the major shifts in manpower essential to peacetime production, had taken place.<sup>(1)</sup> The prevailing mood was one of optimism for the future, and the expectation that high levels of production and employment would prevail.

By and large, developments in the first three months of the year have justified the optimism. With a few notable exceptions, acute shortages of materials and manpower, interruptions in the flow of production, and temporary lay-offs seem to be part of the past. The prospects for continued industrial peace appear to be reasonably good.

Serious labour shortages have been concentrated in a few industries, such as mining and textiles,<sup>(2)</sup> which have special difficulties in attracting workers. Excess manpower has persisted largely in those centres which had experienced relatively little industrialization in the pre-war years, and whose wartime expansion was based on industries of purely wartime significance. The most notable examples of this are in Nova Scotia.

The generally favourable outlook has induced business to plan for modernization and expansion in 1947. Forecasted new investment in durable physical assets amounts to a total of \$1,739 millions, or about 53 per cent above the corresponding outlay achieved in 1946. The great need for housing accommodation has given further impetus to the construction industry.

Exports, always an important indicator of the general state of the Canadian economy, reached \$597.1 millions for the first quarter of 1947, against \$520.6 for the same period of 1946. Sales of Canadian department stores were nine per cent higher in April 1947 than in the corresponding month last year, although they receded seven per cent below the total for the preceding month, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This decline, however, may be largely seasonal in character.

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(1) See "A Review of the Manpower Situation in 1946" in the March issue of the Canadian Labour Market.

(2) See special article on the textile industry in this issue.

This general prosperity has been reflected in the labour market. The employment index in the nine leading industries was 178.9 in March, 1947, as compared with 165.7 in March, 1946. Payrolls and per capita weekly earnings were likewise up over the same month in 1946.<sup>(3)</sup> The increase in average weekly wages in manufacturing in March (\$33.46) over March 1946 (\$29.88) has evidently been large enough to offset the rising cost of living since the index of average weekly real wages showed an increase over the same month of the previous year (107.0 in March, 1947; 103.0 in March 1946; with 1946 average equal to 100).

Unemployment reached its seasonal high in March of this year. There were approximately 195,000 unplaced applicants in March of this year, about 68,000 below the peak of 263,000 in March, 1946. The advance report for May shows a still further decline in unplaced applicants to approximately 152,000, in line with the seasonal upswing in summer agricultural and construction employment.

At the moment, indications are that the good prospects at the beginning of the year for prosperity in the economy, maintenance of a high level of employment, and a high level of income for the earners of the country, have been realized so far. But how long this pleasant state of affairs will continue is another question. In spite of prevailing optimism there seems to be an undertone of uneasiness, and a tendency to draw alarming parallels between the present situation, and the boom period of 1919-20, which was followed by the depression of 1921. Where there is no fear of a major depression, there is at least concern with both the long and short term prospects for the future.

While discussion of the immediate prospects centres around the problem of the future trend of prices, the long term outlook for the economy as a whole and for high levels of employment in particular, seem to centre around the problem of Canadian foreign trade. Though it is a commonplace that Canada's prosperity depends on her foreign trade, its importance to our future has been underlined by the opening of the Geneva World Trade Conference on April 10, 1947.

During 1946, the dominant themes in the manpower situation were the manpower shifts necessary for reconversion to a peacetime economy, and the absorption of war workers and ex-servicemen into civilian industry. By April, 1947, the emphasis had shifted to the possibility of maintaining high levels of employment in an economy which was only just beginning to face the long term problems of a peacetime world.

#### The Basis of the Present Prosperity

The basis of the present prosperity and high levels of employment in the economy is the building campaign by industry, residential builders, and commercial interests; the attempt to fill the backlog of demand for consumers' goods; and our high level of exports. We have not yet faced the situation which might develop when the immediate demands are satisfied.

Nor have we yet succeeded in establishing our industrial export markets on a firm basis. This is necessary if we are to continue prosperity, because so great has been our wartime industrial development that the

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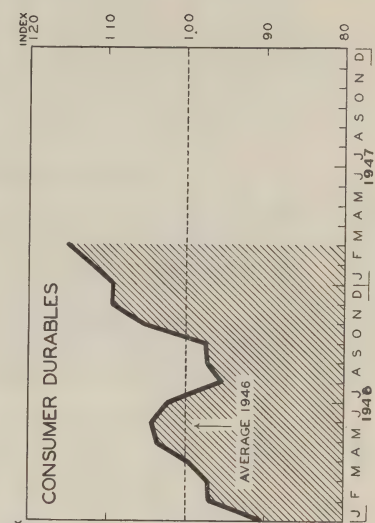
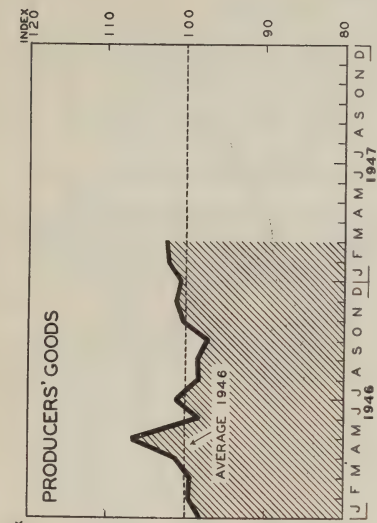
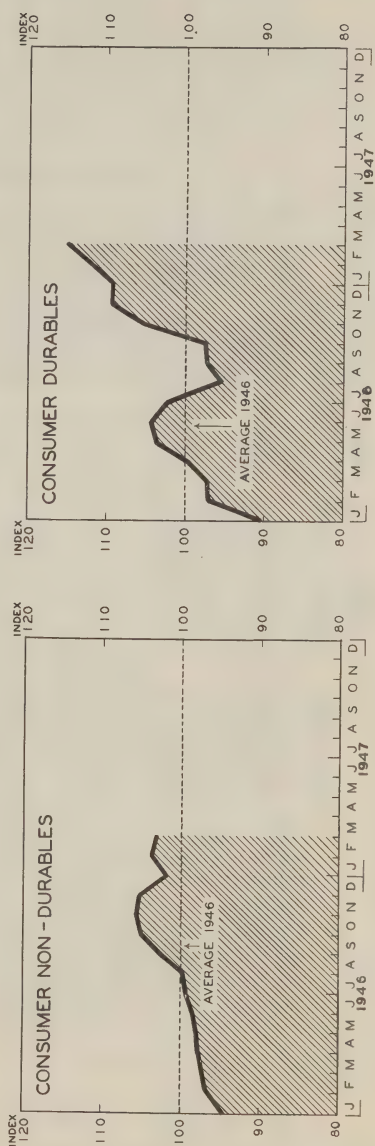
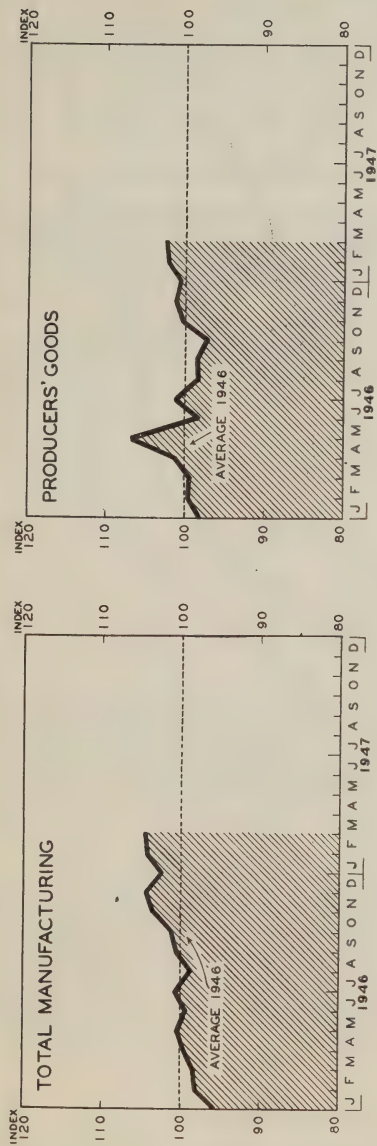
(3) See accompanying table "Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market."

# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

## MAJOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

(INDUSTRIES GROUPED ACCORDING TO GENERAL USE OF PRODUCTS)

1946 — 1947

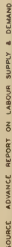


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RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH -- DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M.2-L.1



## AS REPORTED BY THE



domestic market, even under conditions of high consumer incomes and full employment, will no longer support capacity production and full utilization of our manpower resources. In the light of the present disrupted economies of Europe and Asia and in view of the potential threat of American competition in the export markets of the world, it is by no means certain that we can successfully establish export markets for our manufactured goods within the next few years.

### The Price Level and the Backlog of Demand

The backlog of demand for consumers' goods is made effective by high levels of consumers' income, by wartime savings, and ex-servicemen's gratuities. At the same time, prices, as measured by wholesale and cost of living indexes are at an unprecedented level, and there is no sign of a downturn. The danger is that prices will continue to rise to the point where many of the products of industry will be out reach of the average consumer's budget, or in other words that much of the backlog of demand for goods will no longer be effective.

While it is inevitable that some downward adjustment in prices is inevitable, it is not clear whether this will be gradual, as supplies of goods become more plentiful, or whether there will be a sharp break in prices. Gradual readjustment in prices can have no harmful effect, since it would tend to correct the prices which are at present out of line without interrupting the flow of production.

But a sharp break in prices could have very serious consequences, because the immediate reaction would be production cut-backs, pending the sale of inventories on hand. An accompanying trend would be the postponement of plans for expansion of plant until the general situation became more favourable. Both together would mean unemployment.

Whether this situation would develop into a full scale depression or merely a minor recession is of course impossible to say, but the existence of widespread unemployment tends to be self-perpetuating, because a reduction in employment is at the same time a reduction in purchasing power.

Incentives to cut-backs in production might also come from the existence of too high inventories on retailers' shelves. Retailers and wholesalers might refuse to place more orders until their stocks of goods on hand are sold. At the present time, inventories in Canada are high. According to the survey of 508 Canadian business establishments by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, inventories at the end of February 1947, were 13 per cent higher in dollar value than at the end of December 1945. Nevertheless, it is not anticipated that in the near future inventories generally will reach the point where distress selling will be necessary. The threat to employment from this direction is not immediate.

### The Construction Industry

The construction industry (4) plays a very important role in the economy, because it provides a great amount of direct employment as well

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(4) See special article on the construction industry in this issue.

as indirect employment in the manufacture of construction materials. At the present time, the industry is enjoying a period of prosperity in all its branches. Overall employment was estimated at 187,000 as of March 1 about 30,000 above the same date last year. This is unusually high for this season of the year, before the spring and summer upswing has really become effective.

But there are signs of future difficulties. The contracts awarded during April in residential, industrial, and commercial construction are down over the same month of the previous year. This decline in residential construction contracts awarded undoubtedly reflects the fact that costs have forced prices to a level which puts them out of reach of those most in need of homes. The decline in contracts awarded in industrial building is in part the result of the same high costs. Manufacturers may be holding up their plans for plant expansion in anticipation of a drop in prices at some future date. If these trends continue to the point where a serious decline in construction activity takes place, then there could be very serious repercussions on total employment throughout the economy.

#### Long Term Considerations and the Export Market

Though Canada has always been dependent on export trade for her prosperity, it now is a more pressing consideration than ever before because it now is essential for Canada to export not only staple goods, but also manufactured goods. So great has been the wartime expansion of Canada's industrial plant that the domestic market cannot absorb all its products, even at high levels of consumer income. And if the plans for new capital equipment and new plants are any indication, then the productive capacity of the country is still continuing to expand. It is the utilization of the expanded industrial plant at or near capacity which has been responsible for the high levels of employment in Canada in the post-war years.

Prosperous world trade on a multilateral basis is the foundation on which full employment in Canada ultimately rests. The danger at the moment is that if the economies of England and the European countries cannot be restored in the near future, their pressing needs for American dollars will lead to their reduction on imports from Canada and the United States, and the formation of bilateral trade agreements.

If the world returns to a bilateral system of trading of the pre-war years, then Canada will find it more difficult than ever to establish new trade relationships for the export of her manufactured goods.

Ultimately, the ability of the Canadian economy to support high levels of employment depends to a great extent on the restoration of the European economies, and the development of a high volume of international trade on a multilateral basis.



# SIGNIFICANT LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

PRE-WAR, WAR, AND POST-WAR COMPARISON

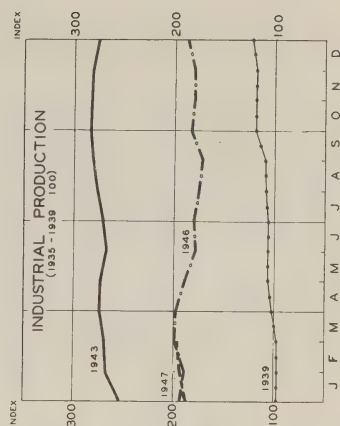
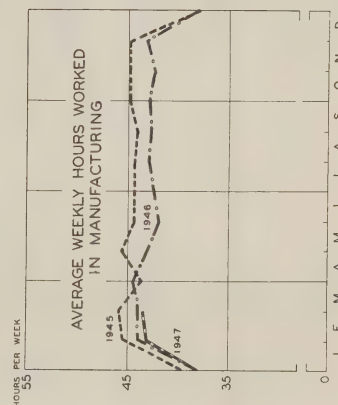
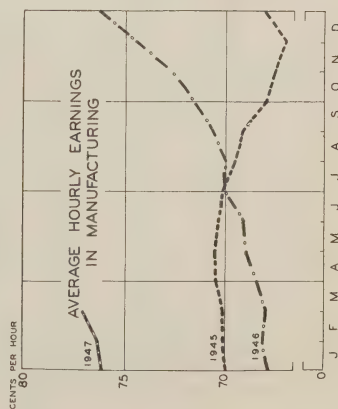
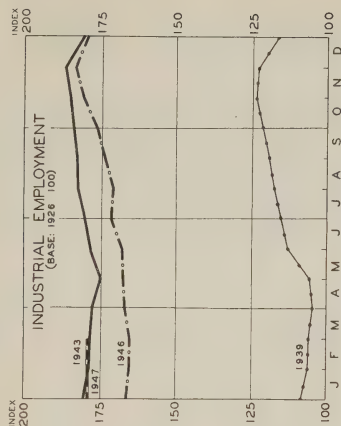
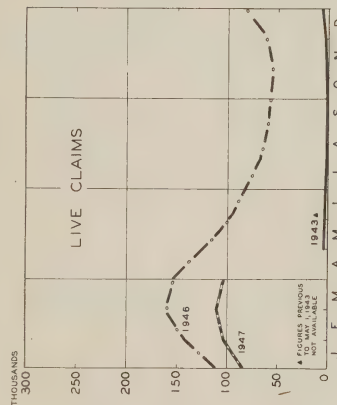
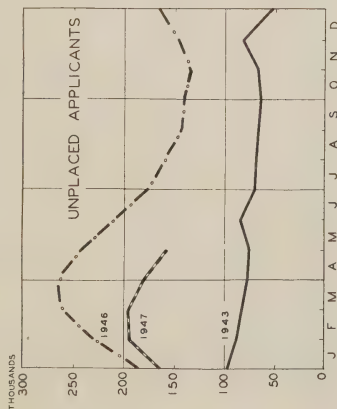




Table I—Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note:—All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Indicators	Mar. 1939	Mar. 1941	Mar. 1942	Mar. 1943	Mar. 1944	Mar. 1945	Mar. 1946	Feb. 1947	Mar. 1947
Employment (a)—									
Index (Av. 1926 = 100).....	106.5	134.2	163.0	178.5	179.0	175.8	165.7	179.2	178.9
(June 1, 1941 = 100)...	-	-	107.8	118.1	118.4	116.5	109.8	118.8	118.6
Number (thousands).....	1,143	1,441	1,750	1,916	1,922	1,887	1,779	1,860	1,932
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	423	402	438
Unplaced Applicants (b)—									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	82	71	88	263	193	195
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	48	43	56	215	156	157
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	33	27	32	48	37	38
Live Claims—									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	16	30	162	104	110
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	13	22	130	82	86
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	3	8	32	22	24
Earnings (a)—									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941 = 100)...	-	-	118.8	141.8	147.9	147.9	137.6	160.7	162.9
Per capita weekly earnings...	-	-	27.99	30.74	32.26	32.81	32.53	35.09	35.62
Cost of Living (c)—									
(Av. 1935-39 = 100).....	-	108.2	115.9	117.2	119.0	118.7	120.1	127.8	128.9
Man-hours and hourly									
earnings (a)—									
Average hours per week.....	-	-	-	-	-	45.8	44.0	43.2	43.4
Average hourly earnings.....	-	-	-	-	-	70.1	67.9	76.4	77.1
Strikes and lockouts (b)—									
Number.....	7	13	18	27	14	23	30	20	18
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	1	1	4	17	2	5	6	34	16
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	10	4	22	31	3	9	46	200	378
Industrial Production (d)—									
(Av. 1935-39 = 100)...	98.5	153.1	217.9	269.1	282.7	248.0	199.0	190.8	195.2

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.





## DOMESTIC SERVANTS THE PROBLEM AND SOME ANSWERS

\$90 A MONTH  
AND A GOOD HOME

We want a fully  
experienced young  
woman for general  
housework. Pri-  
vate room & bath.  
Small family. Air-  
conditioned home.

Enticing ads similar to the above (currently appearing in a Toronto newspaper) can be found in practically all "help wanted" columns across Canada. It is conservatively estimated that in addition to the 4,000 jobs on file at National Employment Service Offices hundreds of positions are vacant at wages of \$25 a month and up, with maintenance.

At the same time, jobs for factory workers and waitresses offer a weekly pay cheque of about \$20 and salaries of clerical positions hover around \$50 a week. Despite the monetary loss, women are accepting household employment only as a last resort. What is the fundamental problem?

The answer brings to light a deep-rooted question several decades old. At the turn of the twentieth century, one out of every three women gainfully employed was in domestic service. Many of these were immigrants who retained the old country "class distinction" mark.

The word "servant" is associated by many with feudalism and slavery, indicating a "master and servant" relationship rather than an "employer-employee" association. Early in the century preference for other types of work was shown.

Distaste for domestic work an aftermath of World War I—The prosperity following the First Great War was characterized by a marked expansion in female employment. Factories and offices became sharp competitors for women workers. It became generally accepted that these occupations required more skill, and eventually the social status of these workers was placed on a higher level than that of domestics. By 1921, only one out of every five women gainfully employed was in household work.

However, movements sprang up to bolster the status of domestic servants. The steady and at times rapid epidemic-like spread of unionization filtered into domestic employment. Although no unions were formed with organized labour a Housekeepers' Association in Calgary, and a Domestic Workers' Alliance in Toronto had proposed a definite labour code for domestics as early as 1919.

Forced employment expansion during depression—The 1929 crash in economic activity slashed alternative opportunities for female employment. Women reluctantly returned to household employment, often to face deplorable working conditions - long hours, total responsibility for children, all types of heavy work, no stated time-off, at a salary range of \$10 to \$20 a month.

Even throughout the depression, however, many domestic jobs could not be filled despite considerable unemployment among women. Reforms were advocated from the press, the pulpit, social organizations, and government representatives. Domestic employment, however, continues to be a completely unprotected means of livelihood.

By 1941, domestic employment had risen to encompass 25 per cent of the employed women, or about 150,000 persons. Average monthly pay(per weeks worked) was about \$20.00. A relatively large proportion of these workers were in the 14 - 17 age group - indicating that many were probably forced into this field of employment because of financial stress of their families.

Vast migration to war industries—The expansion of war industry gained momentum during 1942. The migration of household help to war plants was tremendous - a very conservative estimate places the wartime withdrawal at 30,000.

At the same time several factors were accelerating the demand for domestics - increase in national income, absorption of married women in war factories, increased urbanization of population, and an increased number of households.

Some indication of the extent of withdrawal from the domestic field is provided by statistics available at the Employment Service. Despite the fact that employment offices had greatly broadened their field, permanent placement of domestic servants during 1943 and 1944 totalled fewer than 6,000 as compared with 53,000 in the pre-war years.

Return movement has not materialized—By the end of 1945 female employment in war industries had been reduced by 260,000 from the 1943 peak. Civilian industries were bidding for labour but at a lower wage scale than war industries had offered. Householders competed sharply for help to outbid each other as well as offers by industry.

Placement of domestics at employment offices slowly increased but many were of a "stop-gap" nature to the employee - providing temporary work while "shopping" for employment, or a means of securing housing accommodation.

The current problem, therefore, is not one of labour shortage or wages although the attraction of alternative offers for employment has aggravated the situation considerably. The fundamental problem is a product of years of discontent which now has reached a critical stage under current prosperous economic conditions.

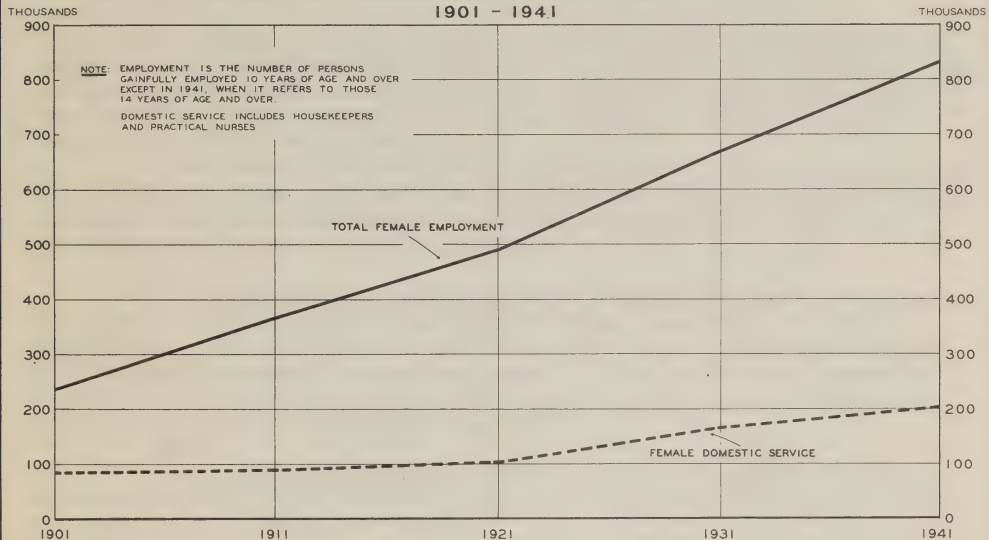
### Main Issues Against Domestic Employment

1. Inferior status—No standard has been set for domestic servants. Since the demand for household help has always exceeded the supply, many rather undersirable types of workers have entered this employment field. Persons doing char service have been classified with house-keepers. The result has been that the loose use of the term "domestics" has led to its being considered an unskilled occupation.



# EMPLOYMENT OF DOMESTIC WORKERS IN COMPARISON TO TOTAL FEMALE EMPLOYMENT

1901 - 1941

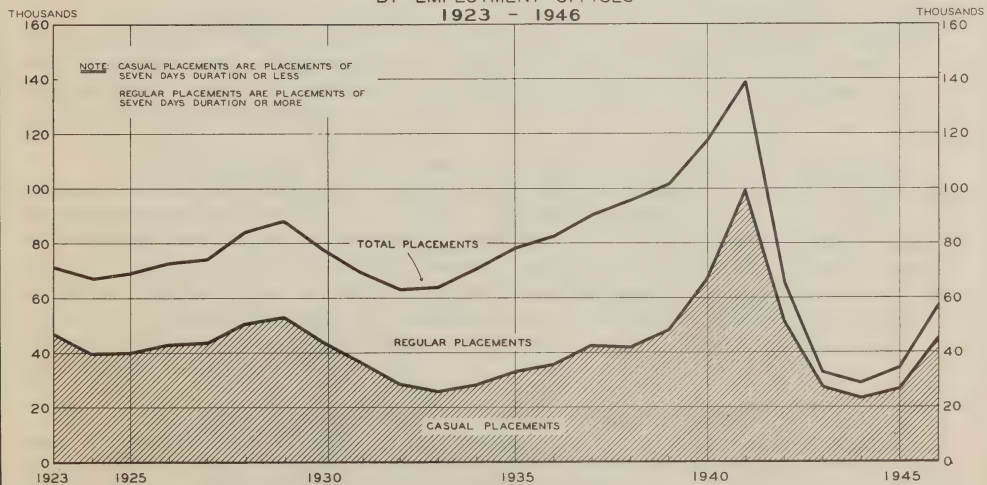


SOURCE: DECENNIAL CENSUS

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M 2-3-1

# REGULAR AND CASUAL PLACEMENTS OF FEMALE DOMESTIC WORKERS

BY EMPLOYMENT OFFICES  
1923 - 1946



SOURCE: EMPLOYMENT OFFICE REPORTS

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M 2-3-2



The required wearing of uniforms and use of back door entrances by the domestic, lack of entertaining facilities and frequently an imposed subservient attitude before the whims of the children of the household have constantly enlivened the issue.

2. Working conditions--The personal liberty of the household worker is at the mercy of the employer. The domestic is often called upon to work during her allotted free periods. "Overtime pay" is foreign to domestic work. Thus, although pay often appears relatively high, the hourly rate may be considerably lower.

Some jobs demand heavy work such as laundry and waxing, together with cooking and the responsibility of children. Although demands have currently lessened, many workers fear that employers may revert their specifications to the pre-war standards.

3. No government protection--The occupation is completely unprotected - there are no minimum hours or wages specified. At the present time the only official protection is a recent regulation by the Saskatchewan government concerning annual holidays with pay. Domestic workers are not covered by unemployment insurance which currently has made many hesitant to leave insurable employment.

4. Lack of organization--No unions exist to protect the rights of the employee. If an employee feels she is unjustly treated, her only alternative is to leave her job.<sup>(1)</sup>

5. Line of advancement limited--There is little opportunity for promotion. At best, a general housemaid may advance to the position of parlour maid and housekeeper but such opportunities are relatively few.

#### Main Issues in Favour of Domestic Employment

1. Amount of "clear" pay--Many domestic jobs provide uniforms, room and board. Consequently, the employee's cheque may largely be set aside as savings. The "saveable" proportion of income is often much higher than that of a well-paid clerk whose cost of living increases considerably with increased prices.

2. Security--One of the most important advantages offered by domestic work is security. First, work is not seasonal, thus lay-offs do not occur because of slack periods. Second, employment is much less vulnerable to changes in economic conditions. This is indicated by the trend of employment in the "Thirties", as mentioned above. Also, a good domestic can sell her services in any locality where there are households. A skilled textile worker, for example, can find a job only in a specialized industrial area. Similarly, a clerical worker must usually seek employment in urban areas.

3. Type of work--Many of today's women have come to realize that housework does require intelligence, initiative and skill, and frequently provides more variety and better surroundings than factory or office work. Increased use of modern appliances is gradually erasing the "drudgery" of housework.

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(1) In 1945, the Vancouver Home Service Employees Union was formed. The strength was reported at 15.



4. In addition, the work offers practical experience for girls who expect to start a home of their own.

The domestic problem now has reached world-wide proportions. The Committee on Women's Work of the International Labour Organization which convened in July, 1946, stressed that immediate consideration should be given to the domestic situation. The following excerpt is taken from the Committee's report on the meeting:

"As an important, if not the leading occupation numerically for women in both slightly and highly industrialized countries and as an occupation with a high degree of social significance, domestic service was recognized as requiring improvements in standards of work and skill if it is to become comparable with other kinds of work and if the widespread scarcity of domestic workers in many countries is to be met."

"Living conditions, leisure time and holidays with pay as well as obligations and duties must be clearly defined. Social security, including the various forms of social insurance needs further extension in many countries to cover domestics."

#### What's Being Done in Canada

Under the Advisory Committee on Reconstruction, a report was drawn up in 1943 which, among other suggestions, recommended various means of approaching the problem. The fundamental features of the recommended plan were:

- 1) Standard set by government-financed training programs.
- 2) Through National Selective Service, a signed agreement to be drawn up between employer and employee regarding wages, termination of employment, and other working conditions.
- 3) Labour legislation and social insurance coverage to be extended to household workers.
- 4) Trained part-time staff to be available particularly for emergency needs.

Incorporating, to a limited extent, some of these recommendations, the Home Aide Service was initiated late in 1945.

Home-Aide project—Launched by the National Employment Service, the Home-Aide project is a modern means of placing domestic work on a business basis. The working hours of the Home Aide are arranged in four-hour shifts; wages are based on current rates paid in the community to sales, office and industrial workers; Home Aides are not expected to undertake car service.

The "staff" of Home-Aides is picked from experienced workers only. The local committees sponsoring the projects usually provide a short "refresher course" consisting of lectures on meal preparation, child care and related subjects.

The Home-Aide plan now is operating in twelve centres across Canada. From September, 1945 to December, 1946 some 1,700 women were recorded as being placed in 7,600 vacancies.

One of the chief problems has been the recruiting of help in a highly competitive labour market. With shortage of womanpower persisting in almost all main occupational groups, women generally will not accept household employment in any form.

Co-operation from employers in accepting this new conception of domestic work has been good; hundreds of positions registered at employment offices cannot be met because of scarcity of workers.

Government-sponsored training---Realizing that much of the stigma associated with household employment has arisen from the lack of a recognized standard within the occupation, the government initiated a certificated training course in 1937.

Under the Dominion-Provincial Youth Training program, practical training courses were given in domestic work, ranging from four weeks to six months in duration. Upon graduation the girls were given certificates and placed in selected homes.

Some difficulty, however, was encountered in obtaining suitable applicants as a considerable number were enrolled because of unemployment relief stipulations. During the war, many of these Home Service Training Schools became inactive.

In 1944, a short course for veterans was opened up under Canadian Vocational Training, but little response has been received to date.

From April 1, 1944 to March 31, 1946, only 105 persons have been enrolled.

Enlarging scope of labour supply---The experience with the aforementioned projects drives home one important fact - that no matter what plan has been adopted, the basic problem has been the limited labour supply. This situation having been accepted, there has been a growing tendency to look elsewhere than through the "normal" existing channels for labour supply.

This involves two main approaches - to increase the supply of domestics through inclusion of additional segments of the labour force or to augment the "normal" supply through immigration.

The first approach involves the tapping of such sources of labour as men (especially older veterans), older women, and married women with children. Several veterans groups have already been formed to provide male household employment.

The National Employment Service is encouraging older women to go into domestic work. The successful absorption of married women with children is largely dependent upon the availability of day nurseries.

Increasing the labour supply through immigration presents a temporary means of solving the problem. Since no legal protection exists against poor working conditions, hours, and wages, however, immigrants might drift into alternative types of work, a situation which might eventually lead to a glut in the unskilled labour market.

Such has been the experience to some extent of the privately-sponsored importation of Puerto Rico workers into the United States which was discontinued late in 1946 because of the unsatisfactory results. Girls found they could command higher wages in industry and gradually deserted household employment.

Under government-sponsored immigration the decisive factor in maintaining stable employment will be the terms provided under the contract.

Domestic reform in Great Britain—The official British attitude regarding household employment is reflected in the Markham-Hancock report on the Postwar Organization of Domestic Employment submitted to Parliament June, 1945. In February, 1946, the government took the first steps towards adopting its recommendations.

The report accepts the social revolution of domestics - that domestic work now takes its place as a social service. It suggests that this revolutionized status of household workers would be better maintained through a government-sponsored "Institute of Houseworkers" rather than by government protective legislature.

The Institute, by its example, will gradually set the pace for all domestic employment.

"The National Institute of Houseworkers" offers extensive training facilities available not only to the employee but also to the employer. A set scale of wages and hours will be fixed by an independent Committee.

Workers are encouraged to live out and hostels are to be provided to supply meals and residence. These hostels are also a focal point of community activity, providing clubs for all members of the Institute.

Domestics' situation in the United States—Domestic service is following an almost unchecked downtrend in the United States. Over half a million workers migrated from the occupation from 1940-1944. In view of the situation, the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labour has undertaken a considerable investigation into household employment.

One of the means of tackling the problem has been through local programs designed to recruit workers. A recent study by the Women's Bureau indicated that 13 out of the 19 communities visited have launched attacks on the long, irregular hours. These programs were initiated in the majority of cases by industrial departments of the local Y.W.C.A.

The average committee represented employers, employees, members of religious, social and civic groups, and individuals trained in placement, economics, domestic science, education, social work or related fields.

Unionization has been relatively limited. There are three currently active domestic unions in the country.

Protective legislature is considerably more advanced in the U.S. than in Canada. The State of Washington and Alaska provide a maximum-hour law for domestics.



Minimum wages are expressly set for domestics in two states and are not precisely excluded from labour regulations in 8 additional states. In five states, workmen's compensation is compulsory while in 31 other states contribution is voluntary.

The Wage Payment Law applies in one specific state and is applicable in 15 additional states. In specific cases. New York state covers domestic under unemployment compensation.



## OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The employment offices now have assumed their normal peacetime role. With the majority of the regulations now lifted the National Employment Service becomes a service in the true sense of the word.

As Arthur MacNamara, Deputy Minister of Labour stated, present regulations "represent about the minimum of co-operation from employers, consistent with a proper organization of the employment market, and the maintenance by the National Employment Service of an opportunity to provide work for job applicants."

The few remaining National Selective Service regulations were revoked at the end of the fiscal year. New orders require a report on "hirings and firings" every six months. Compulsory reporting of vacancies applies only to insurable employment; employers are given a 24-hour leeway before vacancies need be reported; establishments twelve miles distant from the employment office are not required to report vacancies. It is estimated that approximately one half of the labour force is covered by unemployment insurance.

During the period of semi-relaxed manpower controls, approximately forty per cent of reported accessions were channelled through the Employment Service. Will the new orders significantly reduce employment office activities?

Generally it is felt that they will not. There are three main reasons. First, the Unemployment Insurance Act stipulates that all claimants must pass through the Employment Service before benefits can be received. Secondly, popularity of the specialized sections is continually growing. Handicapped placements have jumped about forty per cent and jobs available at E. and P. offices have almost doubled during the year. Lastly, the proposed large -scale immigration schemes will be implemented through the Employment Service. It is possible that the coming period may even see an increase rather than a decline in National Employment Service activity.

### Labour Market Operations as Reported by N.E.S.

Initial recovery began in March---The first significant opening of spring activity began in March. The employment stream was able to absorb thousands of persons released from logging camps, and also a substantial number of the unemployed. Registered unemployment dipped 12,000 during the period. With available labour supply relatively plentiful and a greater number and diversification of jobs reported, placements scored a substantial advance. One out of every three applicants who were registered for work during March was referred to employment.



Placements of handicapped workers shared in the general upswing but executive and professional offices reported a downtrend. The situation for veterans was similar to the general field although the increased rate of demobilization in March boosted applications somewhat.

The labour demand situation—Despite the substantial jump in vacancies reported in March, at April 3 unfilled vacancies were six per cent below the number available one year ago.

Several factors were involved in the downtrend. Decontrol orders re vacancy reporting had been in effect during the last three reporting days. Further, spring activity broke considerably later in 1947 than in 1946, consequently fewer seasonal jobs were open at the April date this year. Another factor was the tendency toward the tightening of hiring specifications by employers. Labour requirements have largely been narrowed down to highly skilled positions or unskilled jobs; many employers prefer to cancel orders rather than accept unsuitable help.

Vacancies reported during March moved upward in all main industry groups. Mining, construction, and service industries particularly, showed steady gains which offset the seasonal drop in logging activity. Average weekly vacancies in non-agricultural industries rose to 30,000 from 28,000 last month.

The labour supply situation—Normal seasonal shifts in employment occurred during March. Unemployed persons and workers in winter industries turned to the summer-active industries for employment. Released bush workers were absorbed in agricultural and construction industries. At the same time the seasonally unplaced were reduced at a rate of approximately 2,000 a week.

The major part of the shift from logging employment was not reflected in increased activity at employment offices as many loggers had been recruited directly from agriculture during the off-season. Lay-offs from manufacturing slackened with the improved supply of basic raw materials.

Unemployment in transportation was extensive, especially among seamen and truck drivers. During March, applications for employment averaged 31,000 per week—a six per cent drop below the February level.

Matching jobs and workers—Labour demand and supply are usually more easily matched during the spring season. Due to scarcity of jobs, labour supply has accumulated during the winter months.

Labour demand during the spring is usually sufficiently diversified industrially and geographically to offer suitable jobs for the available supply. By the summer months the better qualified type of workers has been absorbed, expansion in labour demand tends to be concentrated in fewer areas, and labour shortages begin to appear.

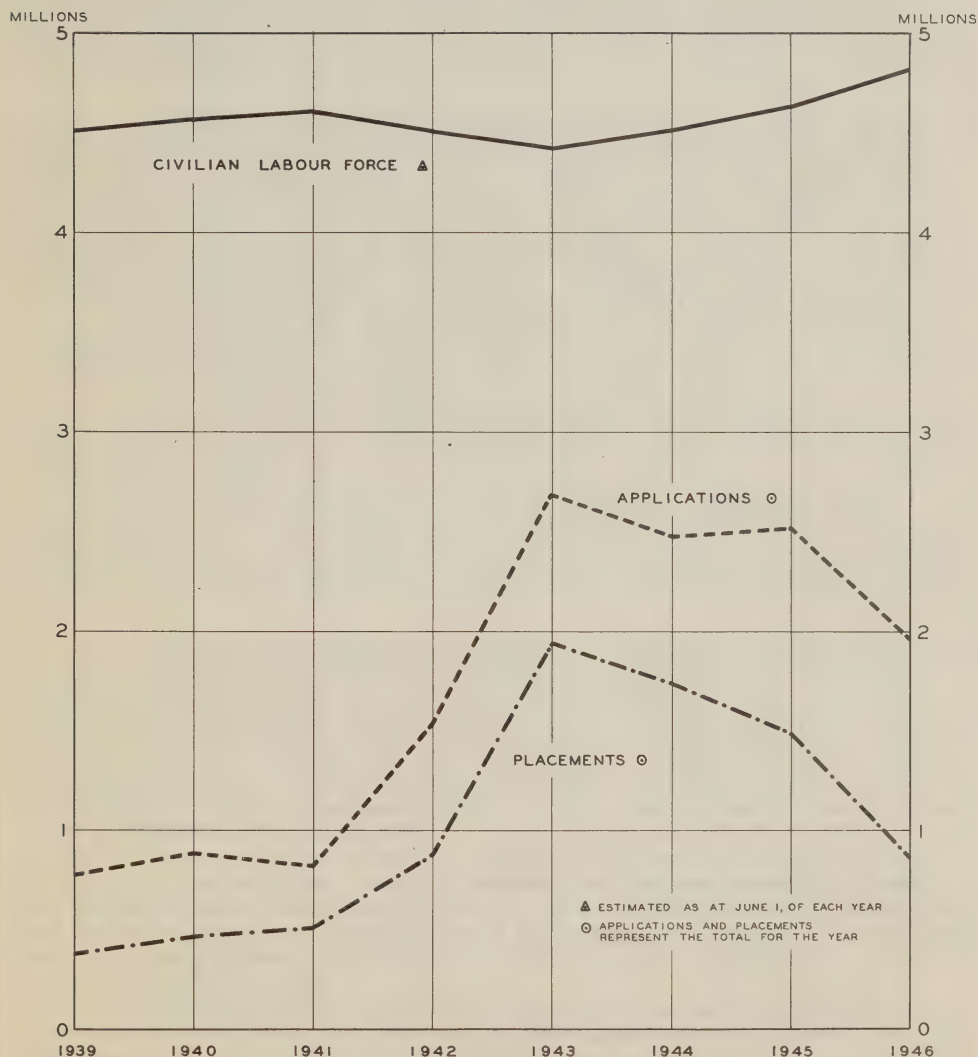
Placements by employment offices rose 10 per cent to average 14,000 per week during March. The increase was common to both men and women and took place in all regions except the Maritimes. By industry, the most noteworthy gains were in construction, service, lumber manufacturing and trade.

# TREND OF EMPLOYMENT OFFICE ACTIVITIES

IN RELATION TO

## CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE

1939 - 1946







Placement of the handicapped--The placement of handicapped persons responded to seasonal variations. During the winter, when fewer jobs were open and more "employable" persons were available, placements of the disabled dropped substantially. However, the seasonal upswing starting in late February accelerated placement activity among the handicapped. Placements from February 15 to March 14 numbered 1,177, leaving 6,000 persons on file at the end of the period.

A review of the year's activity in this sector presented an encouraging picture. During the past 12 months placements rose 39 per cent while job registrants fell 16 per cent. The additional valuable experience gained by special placement officers during the year has played an important part in broadening the scope of employment opportunities for the disabled.

Executive and Professional offices--To a large extent, the limiting factor in general placement activity has been the shortage of jobs reported to employment offices. In contrast, the main hindrance in the executive and professional field has been the lack of applicants. This situation has arisen partially because of the greater coverage of unemployment insurance in the lower wage brackets. Persons unplaced in the general field register to qualify for unemployment insurance whereas the majority of executive and professional personnel are not insured.

At February 13, the seasonal high mark of registered job seekers, 37 jobs were reported for every 100 applications on file. At the same time, the ratio at executive and professional offices was 80 to 100.

Jobs have been steadily accumulating since the beginning of 1946. At the end of March 1947, unfilled vacancies were 85 per cent higher than one year ago. Applications for employment, on the other hand, have remained relatively constant.

Employers were seeking young, experienced, competent staff; applicants tended to be either inexperienced or advanced in age. Average weekly placements during March fell to 54 as compared with 74 in February. At April 3, unfilled vacancies numbered 1,887 while the unplaced totalled 1,873.

Veterans--The employment outlook for veterans improved substantially in March despite a relatively heavy work-load of applications. Both the number of job applicants and the duration in which they were out of work decreased - the unplaced dropped from 61,200 at the end of February to 57,900 one month later. Those out of work more than two weeks declined from 76 to 74 per cent of total unplaced job applicants. The overall reduction came about through greater placement activity. Placements rose 15 per cent to total slightly less than 16,000.

The problems confronting veteran employment are narrowing down to two main classes: the "over 45" veteran, and ex-servicemen in schools and universities. Opportunities for the older veteran are being uncovered by the extensive campaigns being launched throughout the country. It is probable that the 9,300 currently recorded as unplaced will be substantially reduced during the coming months.

The successful absorption of the 72,000 ex-servicemen enrolled in universities and C.V.T. schools will depend largely upon the stability of the economy of this country. The readjustment period predicted in 1948 in the United States, if reflected to any large extent in the Canadian economy, may result in considerable unemployment in this segment of the labour force.

Table I—Average Weekly Applications for Employment at N.E.S. offices  
Since March, 1946, Total, Veteran, and Executive and Professional

(Source: Forms UIC 751B and 7550B)

		Average Weekly Applications		
		Total	Veterans	E. & P.
March	1946.....	37,875	12,006	266
April	" .....	33,158	10,974	308
May	" .....	35,376	11,064	299
June	" .....	38,205	10,048	318
July	" .....	35,802	10,220	279
August	" .....	36,371	10,081	346
September	" .....	37,389	9,643	264
October	" .....	37,271	10,243	286
November	" .....	40,606	10,665	276
December	" .....	31,516	8,924	184
January	1947.....	40,533	10,528	272
February	" .....	33,231	8,768	275
March	" .....	31,377	7,839	213

Table II—Average Weekly Vacancies Notified as  
Reported by National Employment Service  
March 1947

(Source: Form UIC 751)

Industry	March 1947	March 1946	Per Cent Change
Total.....	31,224	32,385	- 3.6
Logging.....	2,764	3,719	-25.7
Mining.....	767	722	+ 6.2
Manufacturing.....	9,852	10,073	- 2.2
Construction.....	3,228	3,614	-10.7
Transportation and Public Utilities.....	1,901	1,795	+ 5.9
Trade, Finance, Insurance.....	4,084	4,013	+ 1.8
Service.....	7,837	7,443	+ 5.3
Agriculture.....	791	1,006	- 21.4

Table III--Average Weekly Placements Made by N.E.S. Offices, since March 1946, Total, Veteran, and Executive and Professional

(Source: Forms UIC 751B and 7550B)

Date		Placements Per Week		
		Total	Veterans	E. & P.
March	1946.....	14,269	4,793	63
April	" .....	16,402	5,951	58
May	" .....	18,350	6,440	62
June	" .....	17,925	5,519	58
July	" .....	17,983	5,369	41
August	" .....	17,548	5,007	33
September	" .....	18,108	4,691	44
October	" .....	18,598	5,183	59
November	" .....	17,991	4,718	57
December	" .....	12,370	3,463	43
January	1947.....	14,284	3,816	64
February	" .....	12,701	3,415	74
March	" .....	14,038	3,561	54

Table IV--Total Unplaced Applicants, by Age Group, and by Occupation, as at March 27, 1947

(Source: Form UIC 757-759)

Occupations	Age Groups				
	Total	Under 20	20-44	45-64	Over 65
<b>Total</b>	179,978	18,719	109,044	37,795	14,420
Professional and Managerial Workers	4,872	107	3,307	1,213	245
Clerical Workers	19,887	2,010	14,173	2,897	807
Sales Workers	10,699	1,700	7,440	1,265	294
Service Workers	17,688	1,296	6,757	6,053	3,582
Farm hands and Fishermen	5,553	498	3,939	959	157
Skilled and semi-skilled	61,887	4,403	41,557	12,680	3,247
Unskilled labour	59,392	8,705	31,871	12,728	6,088





## EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES

With expansionary economic forces pushing the gross national product towards the \$12 billion mark in 1947, the industries reviewed here are those through which it is expected that a considerable portion of these forces will be operating.

The spring upswing in industrial activity general to the whole economy is focussed primarily on agriculture and construction as the media through which the largest employment additions occur. Further, construction presents the picture of an industry at a period of crisis, with costs so high that building is in danger of pricing itself out of the market.

The primary textile industry now is operating at highest capacity possible in the face of serious labour shortage. Intensive union activity is a secondary feature of the labour market here.

Increase in metal mining activity will be moderate but some of the ground lost during 1946 will be regained. An employment rise of about 6 per cent and a general step-up in output is forecast.

### AGRICULTURE

Late spring delays operations—Cold and wet weather has held up farming activity by anywhere from ten days to three weeks in all parts of Canada with the exception of British Columbia.

The May 13 telegraphic crop report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports that the Maritimes and Quebec have been the hardest hit with no spring work begun at that time. Despite the slow start, crop prospects in the Prairies are considered good. In B.C., the season is in advance of 1946 and the outlook for most fruits and crops is favourable.

Decrease in size of labour force<sup>(1)</sup> At the beginning of March, the Canadian agricultural labour force numbered 936,000. This was 150,000 less than the figure for the same date in 1946.

This large-scale drop was spread among all regional, sex, and occupational groups and was the result of the combined effect of a number of factors. Among the more important of these were (a) the adverse effect of the weather on agricultural activity, especially in the Prairies; (b) the more widespread employment of farmers in off-season jobs, notably bushwork (c) a general tendency on the part of women to withdrew from the farm labour market.

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(1) The labour force data used in this section are the estimates of the Sixth Labour Force Survey of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Nature and location of the labour force--Out of the near-million farmers in this country, the greatest single concentration occurs in the Prairies, where 385,000 are located. Ontario and Quebec have about 225,000 each, the Maritimes 72,000 and B.C. is represented with the surprisingly low total of 30,000.

By occupational status, the total is divided as follows--66 per cent are farmers on their own account; 27 per cent are unpaid family workers; and 7 per cent are paid employees.

Collectively, the most volatile of these occupational groupings is, of course, the "paid employees" group. While this winter they formed 7 per cent of the whole work force, last summer their proportion of the total reached as high as 15 per cent, jumping from 115,000 to almost 190,000.

Serious labour shortage expected--Reports from the National Employment Service indicate that there is already a scarcity of farm labour in certain regions. In the Prairies, a fairly good balance exists between demand and supply but orders for farm workers are increasing in number and the low level of wages tends to drive unskilled men to other industries. Few applicants are reported available in Ontario, Quebec and B.C., where field workers and weeders now are required. All indications are that 1947 will see a repetition of last year's shortage of labour.

Second movement of Polish veterans--It is not yet definite to what extent the labour shortage will be relieved by immigration. The new policy allows for the entrance of agriculturalists with sufficient means to begin farming or for persons with assured employment in a basic industry.

The recent admission of some 2,900 Polish veterans came under this latter category. A second group, numbering over 1,000, is expected to arrive late in May or early in June. In Quebec, for example, applications for this latter group are pouring in--applications outnumber the quota by almost four to one.

Further aids to labour shortage--Several movements of labour are being planned to assist this year's harvest. The exchange of harvesting units between the Prairie provinces and the grain-growing States will be repeated again this year. Last year, some 60 outfits from Manitoba, 360 from Saskatchewan and 40 from Alberta made the trip. The movement to the U.S. will begin around the first of May and the men will be back in time for the Canadian harvest, not later than September 1.

Other shifts of farm labour will include the importation of experienced tobacco workers from the Southern States to Ontario and Quebec; and of potato and other harvesters from Canada to neighbouring U.S. districts.

The Dominion-Provincial Farm Labour program will be continued this year under the Federal Minister of Labour. This program was used during the war for the transfer of farm workers between provinces and utilization of special groups. The Ontario Farm Service has already begun recruiting summer help among high school and university students.

Farm wage rates rising--This labour shortage, coupled with the high level of demand and favourable prices, continues to effect an upward movement in agricultural wage rates.

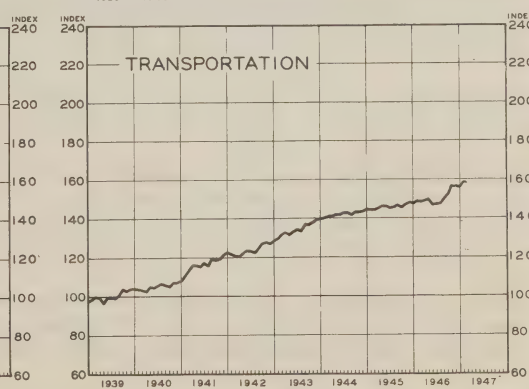
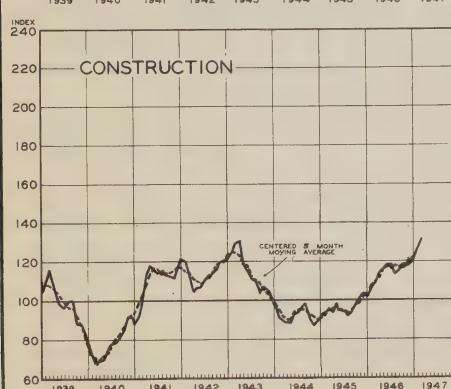
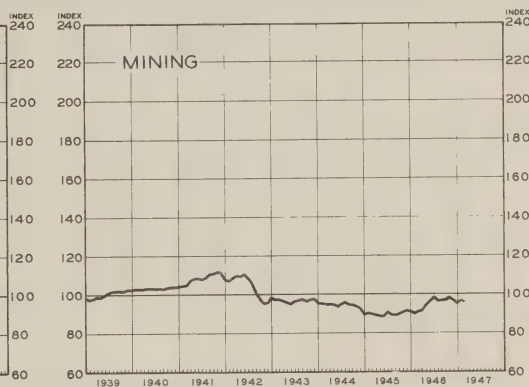
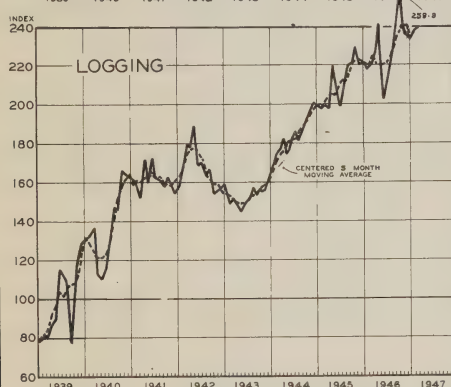
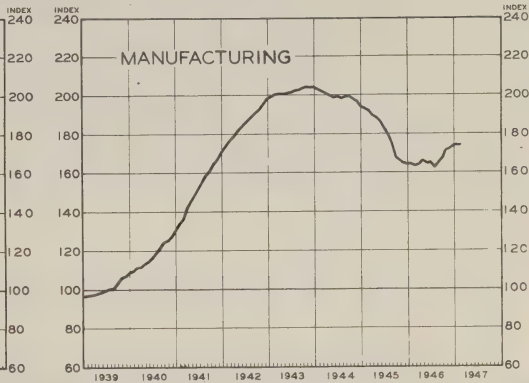
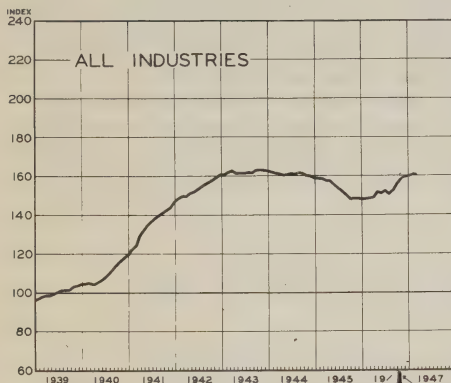


# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

## SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

### FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)





At January 15, 1947, the Canada average wage rate for male farm help without board was \$89.25, and with board \$63.29. Prince Edward Island farmers pay the lowest wages (\$74.24 and \$52.55) and British Columbia farmers the highest (\$103.25 and \$78.02). Rates are invariably at their lowest during the winter, as can be seen in Table I. Last year a high for all Canada of \$100.62 (without board) was reached at August 15.

While these wage rates seem low, especially in view of the long hours and arduous nature of the work, some qualifications are necessary. Farm work offers a reasonable stability and security of employment; the average farm worker is quite a young man; there is no fine gradation according to skill in these rates as in most occupations; and additional payment in kind is sometimes made.

Table I—Canada Average Wages of Male Farm Help per Month  
for Selected Dates 1941-1947

(Source: Agriculture Statistics Br., Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Date	With Board						
	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Jan. 15.....	22.65	30.26	40.85	50.99	55.61	57.24	63.29
May 15.....	31.90	42.49	51.46	61.88	66.88	71.36	-
Aug. 15.....	35.64	46.82	61.81	65.99	71.68	75.28	-
	Without Board						
Jan. 15.....	38.11	49.18	61.76	73.19	79.70	82.23	89.25
May 15.....	46.45	58.80	71.78	84.25	90.60	96.27	-
Aug. 15.....	51.01	64.94	84.76	86.31	97.22	100.62	-

Favourable level of agricultural prices being maintained—At March 1, 1947, the average Canadian farmer was receiving 88 per cent more for his products than he did in the immediate pre-war period, when agricultural prices were relatively depressed.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index of prices of agricultural products stood at 188.0 at March 1 (base 1935-39 average = 100). A year ago, the index was 180.5.

The indices for the Maritime provinces and B.C. are lower than they were a year ago, due mainly to a dip in prices received for potatoes, fruit, vegetables, poultry and eggs. Advances in other provinces were due chiefly to higher prices for livestock and dairy products. On the average, grain prices were at last year's level.

It is generally thought that farm prices will be among the first to drop, should a general price break occur this year. Conceivably, this could take place in the late summer or early fall, when the bulk of the produce is marketed.



Table II—Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products for Canada

(Base: 1935-39 = 100)

(Source: Agriculture Statistics Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.)

Annual Average	1946	1947
1935..... 88.0	January.....178.9	January.....184.8
1936..... 96.9	February.....180.2	February.....185.9
1937..... 119.7	March.....180.5	March.....188.0
1938..... 105.0	April.....182.7	
1939..... 91.8	May.....184.7	
1940..... 96.8	June.....186.7	
1941..... 110.2	July.....188.0	
1942..... 133.1	August.....187.2	
1943..... 157.8	September.....183.7	
1944..... 171.8	October.....183.2	
1945..... 176.6	November.....183.9	
1946..... 183.7	December.....184.6	

The outlook for 1947—The Canadian agricultural production program for 1947 will again be one of huge dimensions both to maintain a high rate of domestic consumption and to assist in alleviating the serious food shortage in Europe. Last year, the net income of Canadian farmers established a new high of \$1267.4 millions, eclipsing the 1944 record of \$1226.9 millions.

Objectives for this year, as set forth by the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Conference in December, call for increased emphasis on production of livestock and dairy production. Tentative targets representing a 19 per cent increase in hog marketings, 10 per cent in eggs, and 6 per cent in milk, are planned. One obstacle to this program is the fact that the low point in the cattle cycle has been reached. Hog and poultry are on the way up, though.

The achievement of this program will necessitate increased feed grain production, especially of barley, with a consequent reduction in wheat acreage. For 1947, Canadian farmers have planned to reduce wheat acreage from last year's 25.9 million acres to 25.1 millions. A decrease of 4 per cent is expected for oats but intended flax seedings are up 67 per cent, and barley 16 per cent, over the previous year.

The key to the level of farm income is to be found in the agricultural price structure and export markets. As noted, there is a possibility of a sag in prices this year.

Exports will continue high, as Canada has concluded marketing agreements for most of her excess agricultural production with the United Kingdom, which is our best and most stable long-term customer. Contracts with the U.K. for wheat, egg, meat and dairy products run to the end of 1948. World-wide shortage of agricultural products will be of further assistance to maintain ing favourable prices and markets for the Canadian farmer during 1947.

## METAL MINING

Employment increasing—Employment in metal mining during 1946 dropped 25 per cent below the wartime peak reached in 1941, mainly due to a disappointingly low level of activity in gold mining. This year, however, employment has increased somewhat and at March 1 was reported at 38,000 or 8 per cent above the total a year ago.

Labour shortage restricts production—Currently, the most important factor affecting metal mining employment is the shortage of experienced labour.

In general, most mines have been unable to build their labour force up to the desired size either in the gold or base metal mining groups. This lack of skilled help also limits the number of beginners who can be taken on.

At May 1, there were close to 2,000 unfilled vacancies in the metal mining industry, 1000 of which were in gold mines and 700 in nickel mines. Approximately half of these were located in Ontario.

Immigration offers a possible source of relief. New regulations announced by the Hon. J.A. Glen, Minister of Mines and Resources during February, allow the entry of "an experienced miner entering Canada to engage in assured employment."

Gold mining position—The gold mining industry remains in an unsatisfactory operating position. Half the work force in the metal mining industry are in gold mines and the level of activity continues at a lower rate than in the pre-war period and far below the 1941 peak. Employment now is around the 18,000 mark (1941 - 30,000).

Production during 1946 was up 4 per cent in physical volume over 1945 but down 6 per cent in value. Gross value of production last year was \$103.9 millions as compared to 1941's \$205.8 millions. In the first two months of 1947, gold production fell slightly. Production totalled 456,000 five ounces, 11,000 below the same period last year.

New tax concessions have been granted gold mines by the Dominion government. These are (1) an increase in the general depletion allowance on operating profits from 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> to 40 per cent. (2) permission for new gold mines to defer write-offs until after the initial tax-free three year period (3) an increase in the minimum (tax-free) depletion allowance from \$2 to \$4 an ounce.

These arrangements will be of help to the financial position of the industry but the fundamental problem goes deeper into the cost-price relationship. With rising operating costs, \$35 gold does not provide a high enough profit margin to offer the necessary incentive to expansion.

Favourable outlook for base metals—The position of base metal mines is more favourable, although the world shortage of base metals continues to keep export prices generally above the Canadian ceiling for copper, lead and zinc.

At May 8, the domestic price for lead was 10.6 cents per pound compared to the U.S. and world price of 15 cents. Electrolytic zinc was at 10.25 cents per pound here and from 11 to 11.5 cents on the export market. The Canadian ceiling for electrolytic copper is 16.6 while export prices range from 21.5 to 23.7 cents per pound.

While exports of these metals are controlled, the level of prices in general is high enough to stimulate production and development which was retarded by the low prices of the "thirties".

Wage negotiations underway—Negotiations now are being carried on which will determine the pattern of wage rate increases in the metal mining industry during 1947.

In British Columbia, the venue of an extended hard rock miners' strike last fall, the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. is negotiating a new contract with the United Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union which is requesting a 25-cent-an-hour increase for its members. The contract expires June 1.

Disputes between the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers and 11 gold mines in the Timmins—Kirkland Lake area now are in process of reference to Conciliation Board procedure, wages and union security being the principal matters at issue. There is some possibility of work stoppages at these mines.

Renegotiations of a collective bargaining agreement between the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co. and six A.F. of L. unions was underway at the time of writing. The contract expired April 19.

The accompanying table indicates the high level of wage rates which prevail in this industry. It should be remembered that these are wage rates as distinct from earnings which include bonus and overtime pay.

Since these rates were computed, further increases have been granted mine workers in the Flin Flon, Timmins, Kirkland Lake, and Noranda areas.

Table I—Wage Rates for Selected Occupations in the Metal Mining Industry<sup>(1)</sup>  
during 1946  
(In Cents per Hour)

(Source: Research and Statistics Br., Dept. of Labour.)

Occupation	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	British Columbia
Miner (Machinemen or drill runners)	.76	.78	.89	.95
Miner's helpers.....	.68	.69	.79	-
Labourers.....	.59	.68	.70	.80
Muckers and Trammers.....	.70	.73	.80	.83
Timbermen.....	.79	.82	.85	.96
Chute Blasters and Scalpers.....	.76	.80	-	-
Motormen.....	.75	.80	-	.87
Carpenters.....	.70	.73	.88	.99
Electricians.....	.78	.82	1.07	.99
Hoistmen.....	.79	.82	.94	.95
Machinists.....	.87	.92	1.07	1.04

(1) Preliminary only.

Employment outlook—The Employment Forecast Survey conducted by the Department of Labour estimates that employment in this industry will increase by approximately 6 per cent up to October 1 of this year.

This relatively small increase is due to the deterrent effect on expansion of labour shortages and the financial position of the gold mining group. Delays in the delivery of machinery and equipment are not expected to be as serious this year as last. Seasonality of employment in the industry is not large—last year a slight employment peak was reached during the summer months.



The following comments received from several of the larger metal mines highlight some of the more important aspects of employment at the present time.

"Rapidly moving labour makes it improbable that we will reach the 2,600 figure given in our last report as the estimate for April 1, 1947. We are now attempting to increase the production of our employees rather than the number."

"Increased development work is responsible for the increased number of employees. When this work is completed, unless some action is taken by the government to alleviate the industry's position, the estimated number of employees will be as previously forecast."

"The factors affecting employment are (1) proposed new construction (2) student employment and vacation replacement."

"Usual spring exodus to outside work counteracted in part by summer employment of university students who return to university by October 1, 1947."

"We still need mining help, which is very slowly coming forward."

The Department of Reconstruction, in their review of "Current Economic Conditions in Canada," March, 1947 sums up the outlook for metal mining as follows, "Higher prices and more labour are expected to result in increased production in the base metal mining and smelting industry this year. Most base metals, including tin, antimony, copper, lead, and zinc will continue to be in very short supply throughout 1947 although some improvement over last year is expected. The largest increases in output expected by producers are about 28 per cent in nickel and about 21 per cent in copper, while lead and zinc production is expected to remain at about the 1946 level. Aluminum and magnesium have been in adequate supply since the end of the war and aluminum production is being increased to meet export requirements. Although the revaluation of the Canadian dollar affected adversely some of the marginal mines, an increase in gold production is expected. The capital expenditure intentions of the mining industry in 1947 are more than three times those realized in 1945 or 1946."

## CONSTRUCTION

There are several dangerous trends which project a disturbing element into the current construction picture. A general drive for wage boosts is being made by construction labour at a time when high costs make building prohibitive for a considerable section of the market. Further the deterrent effect of the twin bogeys of last year's season, shortage of materials and skilled labour, continues scarcely unmitigated.

This year's housing target has been set at 80,000 units a 25 per cent increase over the 64,000 completed during 1946.

Skilled labour shortage--Lack of qualified men is already being felt in the industry, according to reports received from the National Employment Service. The greatest scarcities are in the trowel trades, such as bricklayers, stone masons, and plasterers.

It has been suggested by the Federal Minister of Labour that an interchange of tradesmen between contractors would do much to alleviate the present acute shortage. In pre-war days, when men were in short supply, if a contractor had a surplus of staff for a short time, it was the practice

to loan men he did not require to some other contractor, with the understanding that the men so loaned would be returned to him when they were needed.

The statistical data below show the job openings and applicants as registered with N.E.S. at May 1, 1947. This does not present a complete picture of labour demand and supply in construction, however, as a large proportion of the placement of skilled labour is channelled through the agency of the Unions. Plastering, bricklaying, and cement and concrete finishers were the only trades with a shortage of applicants, and carpentry and unskilled labour had the greatest surpluses.

Table 1--Unfilled Vacancies and Unplaced Applicants  
in the Construction Industry, as at May 1, 1947.

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

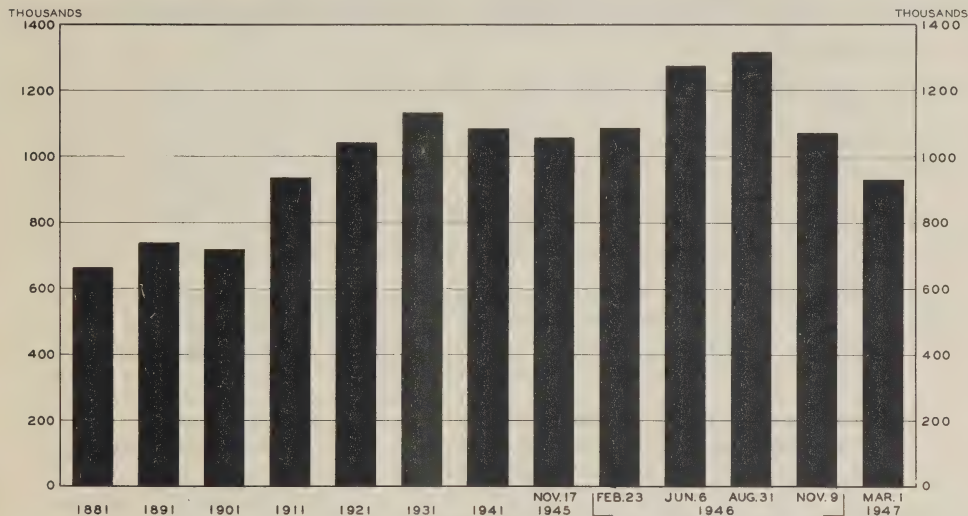
Occupation	Unfilled Vacancies	Unplaced Applicants
Bricklayers and tile setters.....	715	180
Carpenters.....	1,657	5,791
Cement and Concrete Finishers.....	149	105
Painters.....	450	1,680
Plasterers.....	204	55
Plumbers and Steamfitters.....	321	707
Other construction occupations.....	230	638
Unskilled labour.....	4,404	7,167

Spring employment expansion underway--Although delayed somewhat by the late season, outdoor construction generally began to get underway during April. Last winter, the urgency of demand maintained a surprisingly high level of employment. Estimates made the D.B.S. Labour Force Survey show that about 180,000 men were kept busy on construction and maintenance (including railway and highway maintenance) during what is normally an off-season.

While an employment peak estimated at more than 260,000 was reached last year, this figure has been exceeded on two previous occasions, during the 1929 boom and once again in 1942 with the peak of wartime activity.

The current level of employment is a good 30,000 above last year at the same date and it seems probable that unless material and labour shortages or high costs prevent it, the coming construction season will see more workers than ever before employed in the construction industry.

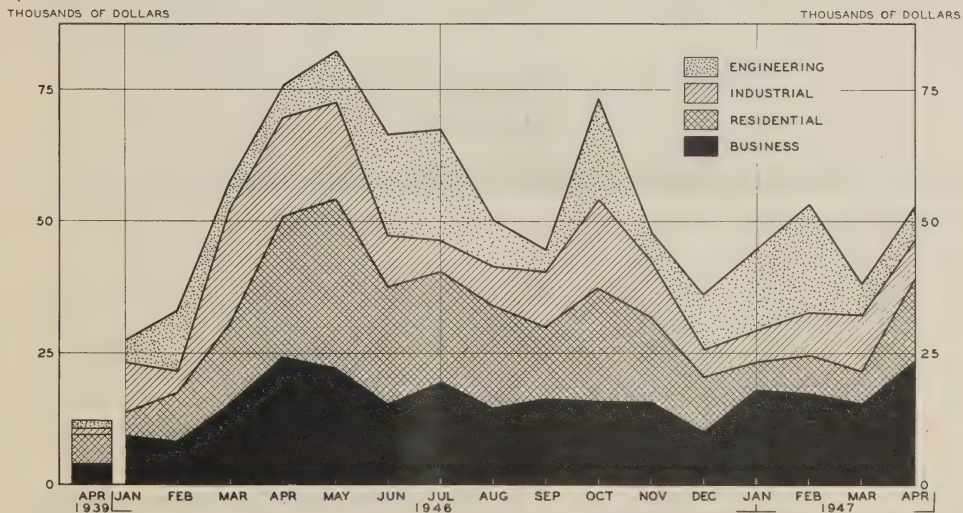
## AGRICULTURAL LABOUR FORCE 1881 TO DATE



SOURCE: DECENNIAL CENSUS AND LABOUR FORCE SURVEY - D.B.S.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M.2 - U.1

## CONTRACTS AWARDED IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY



SOURCE: MACLEAN'S BUILDING REPORTS

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M.2 - U.2





Table II—Estimated Employment in the Construction and Maintenance Industry 1945 to 1947

(Source: D.B.S. Labour Force Survey)

Date	Employment
November 17, 1945.....	179,000
February 23, 1946.....	151,000
June 1, 1946.....	236,000
August 31, 1946.....	262,000
March 1, 1947.....	183,000

Contracts awarded decline—The value of contracts awarded, a fairly good advance indicator of the trend of construction activity, fell slightly below 1946 in the first four months of this year. Up to the end of April, total value was \$189 millions, compared to last year's \$194 millions for the same period.

This could be due to either or both of two reasons (1) buyer resistance to prices or (2) carryover from last season. Whatever the reason, this trend presents a real threat towards the expansion of construction employment.

This drop has been concentrated in the industrial and residential building categories which are down 42 per cent and 39 per cent respectively from last year. The greatest single increase was registered in the engineering group, which consists mainly of highway construction, while commercial and institutional building also jumped.

During April, the value of contracts awarded for all types of construction was \$52.9 millions, 30 per cent below the same month last year. All categories but engineering shared in this decline.

Table III—Contracts Awarded in Construction  
First Four Months of 1946 and 1947.  
(in Millions of Dollars)

(Source: MacLean Building Reports.)

Type	1947	1946	% Change
	\$	\$	\$
Engineering.....	49.4	26.9	+ 84.0
Comm. & Instl. Bldg. ....	74.4	56.6	- 31.0
Industrial.....	31.0	53.8	- 42.0
Residential.....	34.6	56.7	- 39.0
Total.....	189.4	194.0	- 2.4

Upward movement of wage rates—The beginnings of the general upward movement of wage rates expected in the Canadian economy during 1947 is reflected in recent wage increases granted construction workers in several cities.

The new pattern set by agreements in Toronto will probably be close to the general standard, with increases ranging from 10 to 20 cents per hour. Bricklayers now are the highest paid occupational group after two raises this year upped their hourly rate by 25 cents to \$1.60. Plasters received 20 cents an hour more; carpenters 15 cents; sheet metal workers 18 cents; and electricians 10 cents.

A widespread series of small construction strikes has been going on during May in a drive for higher wages. Most of these took place in Ontario, with Toronto, Hamilton, Windsor, Kingston, Sarnia, St. Catharines and Lakehead cities being among the centres which experienced the labour trouble.

These walkouts have been general among all occupational groups, including labourers, carpenters, and crane and steam shovel men, and a wage increase of 25 cents per hour seems the average request. Most of the strikes involved only a small number of men, but a labourers' strike in Windsor, settled May 21 kept 2,250 strikers and sympathizers off work. Some 300 labourers had gone out in Toronto at the time of writing.

The accompanying wage rate schedule gives the 1946 average of wage rates in the more important occupations by city, to which these new increases will be added.

Lack of apprentices—<sup>(1)</sup> In a "bust-or-boom" industry such as construction, the problem of training skilled labour is always a most difficult one. Were sufficient men to be trained to meet the present emergency, this would mean a huge surplus in a time of business depression. With this consideration in mind, veterans planning on entering the industry have been directed towards the trades which are expected to offer the best long term opportunities.

It is generally thought that the plumbing and electrical trades may have a surplus of skilled apprentices, but bricklaying, plastering and painting will not have enough.

Estimates of the annual labour requirements of the industry made by the Joint National Conference of the Construction Industry last year, set the absorption rate for Canada as follows: carpentry, 1900; painting 1250; plumbing and steamfitting 700; electrical work 825; bricklaying 180; plastering 160; sheet metal work 150.

The present number of veterans enrolled in Canadian Vocational Training courses is estimated at 2,800 (Table V) with carpentry, electrical work and bricklaying attracting the largest numbers. Since April 1, 1944 almost 6,000 trainees have passed through C.V.T. schools into apprenticeship (Table VI).

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(1) For a more detailed discussion of this topic see the Canadian Labour Market, April 1946 or the Labour Gazette June, 1946.



Table IV--Preliminary Estimates of Wage Rates in the Construction Industry  
(in cents per hour)

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

City	Bricklayers and Masons	Carpenters	Electricians	Labourers	Painters	Plasterers	Plumbers	Sheet Metal Workers
Halifax.....	127	105	117	60	89	115	113	93
Saint John.....	121	88	85	55	81	121	90	80
Quebec.....	110	90	90	65	81	110	90	90
Montreal.....	117	106	111	67	95	117	111	106
Ottawa.....	125	105	105	61	86	116	125	110
Hamilton.....	130	115	120	65	96	107	120	113
Toronto.....	135	120	135	65	105	130	130	128
Windsor.....	136	123	138	71	100	125	135	125
Winnipeg.....	135	115	115	60	100	135	125	90
Regina.....	135	105	110	60	80	116	120	90
Calgary.....	126	110	106	65	100	116	116	112
Edmonton.....	145	110	115	70	100	145	120	116
Vancouver.....	145	125	135	80	110	122	135	133
Victoria.....	145	125	121	65	95	110	119	118

Table V—Veterans Registered for Training in the Building Trades  
in C.V.T. Schools as at March 31, 1947

(Source: Vocational Training Branch, Dept. of Labour)

Trades	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	QUE.	ONT.	MAN.	SASK.	ALTA.	B.C.	TOTAL
Carpentry.....	29	111	88	131	305	50	73	86	46	919
Bricklaying.....	13	117	45	92	152	20	16	5	-	460
Painting & Decorating.....	-	27	10	19	65	20	-	10	6	157
Plastering.....	-	-	-	10	38	8	-	1	-	57
Plumbing & Steamfitting.....	17	73	34	33	155	18	7	8	6	351
Sheet Metal.....	-	12	3	13	46	21	12	4	11	122
Electricians.....	18	49	31	255	177	38	62	28	82	740
Total.....	77	389	211	553	938	175	170	142	151	2,806

Table VI—C.V.T. Graduates in Registered Apprenticeship  
April 1st, 1944 to March 31, 1947

(Source: Vocational Training Branch, Dept. of Labour)

Trades	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	QUE.	ONT.	MAN.	SASK.	ALTA.	B.C.	TOTAL
Carpenters.....	5	37	25	154	632	84	15	86	120	1,158
Cabinet Makers.....	3	1	8	147	181	36	18	43	41	478
Woodworking.....	2	-	2	24	78	31	1	3	7	148
Tramway.....	-	6	-	24	260	2	1	1	9	303
Stone Mason.....	-	5	2	1	18	9	-	1	9	45
Tile Setters.....	-	-	-	1	9	-	-	-	4	14
Sheet Metal.....	1	7	6	31	235	76	16	54	35	461
Painting and Decorating.....	1	5	11	27	271	65	12	53	62	507
Plastering.....	-	4	-	4	80	16	-	32	18	154
Plumbing.....	21	30	49	223	675	41	18	144	69	1,270
Electricians.....	7	26	17	202	584	118	40	93	31	1,168
Total.....	40	121	120	838	3,023	478	121	510	455	5,706

Note: Increase of 292 over February 1947.



## THE PRIMARY TEXTILES INDUSTRY<sup>(1)</sup>

Post-war rise of employment continues--Employment in the primary textile industry now is at a post-war, in fact an all-time, peak. In addition, it is likely that the current employment expansion in this industry, which began shortly after V-J day, will continue for some time yet.

At the beginning of March, 1947, there were about 57,000 workers employment in the primary textile industry in Canada, as compared with 49,000 at V-J day and 54,000 at the war peak in August of 1942.

The history of the primary textile industry in Canada has been a long one. As early as 1850, small woollen mills, manufacturing cloth from local materials and for local needs, were appearing throughout the towns and villages of Upper and Lower Canada.

With the exception of these woollen mills, however, the industry grew slowly. By 1871, there were about 4,500 workers turning out woollen goods and only 700 engaged in the manufacture of cotton goods.

In 1879, a vigorous policy of tariff protection was initiated by the Canadian government, and textiles, especially cotton goods, were provided with a substantial measure of protection. As a result, by 1881 woollen mills employed 6,900 workers while cotton mills had expanded to employ about 3,500.

From 1879 to 1896, however, Canada underwent a period of economic stagnation despite the tariff policy. Nevertheless, the primary textile industry, and especially firms producing cotton goods, continued to grow. Thus, by 1891, woollen mills employed 7,200 workers while mills producing cotton cloth had grown to employ an even greater number, 8,500.

From 1896 to 1913, Canada enjoyed the prosperity arising from the "Wheat Boom". During this period, the policy of tariff protection was a strong factor leading to the development of an integrated trans-continental economy.

As the West became prosperous through the sale of its wheat in the world market, a demand for manufactured goods arose and this led to the industrial expansion of the East. The East-West flow of goods was stimulated by the building of transcontinental railways.

These favourable conditions induced a continued expansion of the cotton textile industry although the manufacture of woollen goods began to fall off. By 1901, there were about 12,000 workers employed in cotton mills. In woollen mills, however, employment had dropped to 6,900. Progress was slow in the case of woollen textiles, linens, and silks, since the duties on these goods were relatively low.

In line with the general development of manufacturing industries in Canada, the primary textile industry became concentrated in Ontario and Quebec. By 1900, 90 per cent of the production of textile products was done in these two provinces.

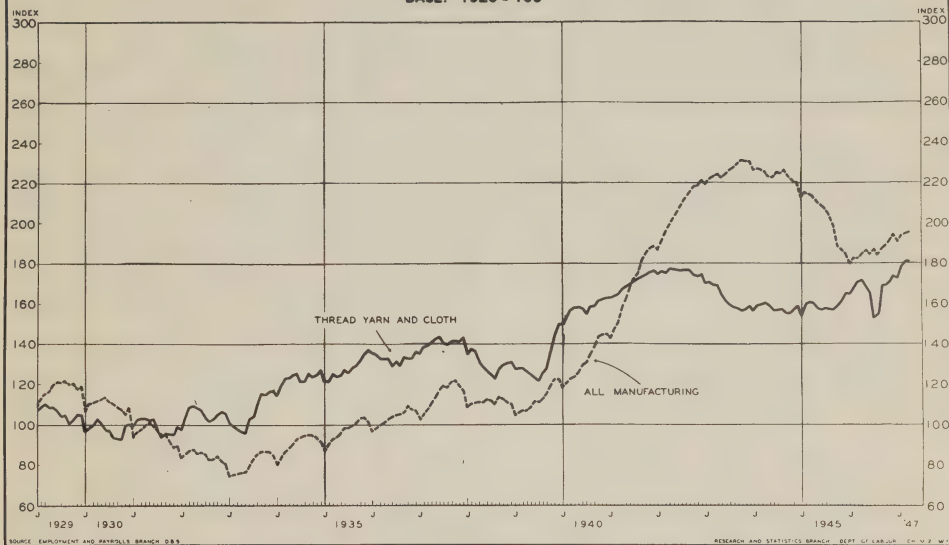
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(1) Includes the manufacture of thread, yarn, and cloth from both cotton and wool as well as the manufacture of silk and artificial silk.

# EMPLOYMENT IN MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY TEXTILES

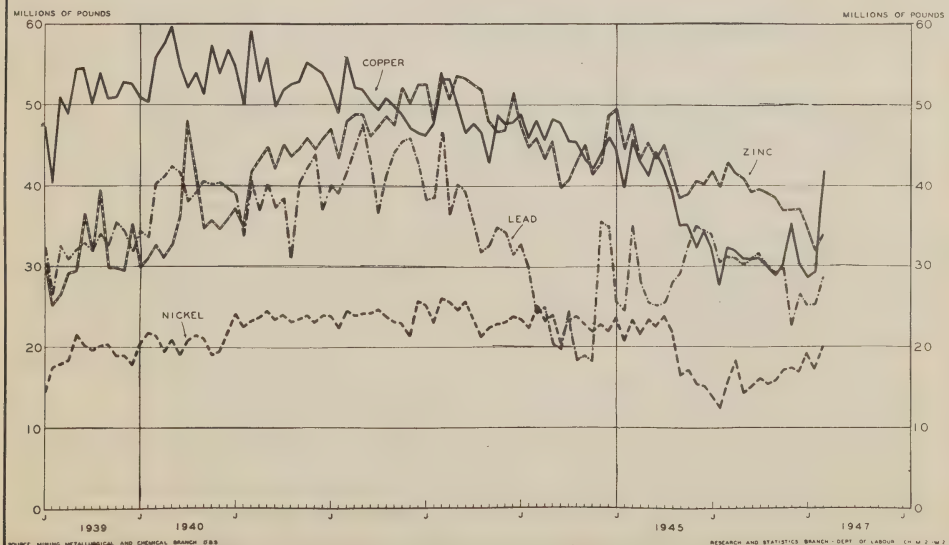
1929 TO DATE

BASE: 1926 = 100



# PRODUCTION OF LEADING BASE METALS

1939 TO DATE







The first decade of the twentieth century saw a continued expansion in the primary textile industry due to the general prosperity of the period. A temporary set-back occurred, however, from 1908 to 1910 when a minor depression caused a great deal of unemployment and labour unrest in cotton mills particularly. Consequently, by 1911, cotton mills employed about 13,000 workers while woollen mills employed 5,100.

The stimulus to the manufacture of consumer goods continued during the first World War due to war-time expansion in agriculture and to the increase in the tariff in 1915. Between 1915 and 1918, employment in the textile industry increased by 10 per cent.

The era of prosperity following World War I and extending up to 1929 saw a continued expansion of the primary textile industry. Cotton textiles, still protected by the tariff, continued to grow the fastest. In addition, the growing tendency for Quebec industries to be those producing non-durable goods and for Ontario industries to be those producing durable goods led to the concentration of three-quarters of the cotton textile industry in the former province.

Cotton yarn and cloth became the major products of the primary textile industry. Its dependence on a relatively large supply of labour led to its concentration in Quebec where wage rates were already lower than in other regions. By 1929, there were about 30,000 workers employed in the primary textile industry.

With the onset of the depression, therefore, the primary textile industry, for the most part producing cotton textiles, was importing materials not indigenous to Canada in order to manufacture goods for the domestic market. During the depression, employment in this industry dropped only 4,000 and had recovered its 1929 level by early 1932. By 1937, employment had risen to 42,000.

A remarkable feature of the industry during these years was the great expansion of the silk industry. In addition, tariffs were raised from 1930 to 1933 and this further stimulated the primary textile industry.

Employment fell off in 1938 and 1939, but subsequently rose steadily until the war-time peak of 54,000 was reached.

Labour shortage persists--A shortage of labour continues to be one of the main problems facing the primary textile industry. Probably no other industry has experienced such difficulty in the last few years in securing an adequate supply of workers.

The reasons for this are complex. The cost of labour bulks relatively large in the textile industry. Before the war, the payroll of the primary textile industry amounted to 27 per cent of the gross value of production while the same percentage for all manufacturing industries was 21. With labour therefore being one of the major cost items, there was a strong tendency for textile mills to seek locations where adequate manpower would be available.

In the early years of this century, such localities were the small towns and villages of Ontario and especially of Quebec. These predominantly rural communities provided a large and stable supply of manpower and were the scene of very little, if any, local competition for workers. These circumstances favoured the development of a buyers' market for labour and consequently the payment of wages which were lower than those paid in other areas where competition was greater and the labour supply not so ample.

In the early years of the century, however, a tendency was becoming apparent which was bound to interfere with this favourable situation. The growing concentration of manufacturing, commerce, and finance was reflected in an increasing urbanization of the central provinces. This trend speeded up after the end of the first World War. This migration from the country to the city was greatest in Quebec, the centre of the major part of the primary textile industry. By 1931, Quebec was the most highly urbanized province in Canada.

The depression of the "Thirties" postponed the effects of this on the labour supply of the primary textile industry. With the onset of the second World War, however, a situation which had been brewing for many years became at once startlingly apparent. Movements which had been occurring were accentuated. The trend towards urbanization was speeded up. The competition for workers became much greater. High-wage industries expanded, and new war industries paying even higher wages grew up.

As a result, a serious shortage of labour developed in the primary textile industry as early as 1942, despite the fact that this industry was producing goods for war. This shortage was a continuing problem throughout the war, and Canada's post-war prosperity has kept it to the fore.

In the face of this shortage, it was inevitable that wages would rise. Between 1939 and 1945, wage rates in the primary textile industry rose 52 per cent while the average rise over the same period for all Canadian industries was 42 per cent. Since 1945, wages have continued to increase in the primary textile industry. Average hourly earnings have risen from 49 cents in 1945 to 52 cents in 1946 and 59 cents at March 1, 1947.

At the same time, the payroll of the cotton textile industry, which in 1939 amounted to 48 per cent of the gross value added by manufacture in the industry, was 55 per cent of the gross value added by manufacture in 1944. The workers, therefore, have been receiving a larger share of the net income of this industry.

Labour-management relations quiet but unstable—During the first four months of 1947, labour unrest in the primary textile industry was not so extensive as it was in the same period of 1946. In addition, there is little possibility of a major strike occurring in this industry during the fifth and sixth months of this year.

Three employers in the primary textiles group have experienced strikes since the beginning of the year. In the first two strikes, one at Huntingdon Woollen Mills, Huntingdon, Quebec, and the other at Associated Textiles of Canada, Louiseville, Quebec, the time loss was negligible. The third strike at Ayer's Limitd, Lachute, Quebec, has been in progress for almost two months.

The walk-out at Ayer's Limited involved some 600 workers. The original demands were for a 15 cent-an-hour wage increase, two weeks vacation with pay after two years' service, six legal paid holidays a year, and a union shop. The demands for a wage increase have since been reduced to 12 cents; the demand for legal paid holidays to four days a year. At present, some of the workers have returned to work and the company claims that the strike is over. Union officials, however, are very explicit in saying that the strike is not over.



No collective bargaining agreements in existence in the largest firms in this industry are due to expire before July, 1947. To date, no record of any desire to re-negotiate the one agreement due to expire in July is on hand.

The history of labour organization and of industrial relations in the primary textile industry is rather varied. Until 1905, there was practically no organization among the workers in this industry.

From 1905 to 1908, active attempts were made to organize the industry by several unions, including the National Trades and Labour Congress, the United Federation of Textile Workers of America, and the Federation of Textile Workers of Canada. In that year, a general trade and financial depression, which led to a reduction of wages in the textile industry and to several strikes in Quebec cotton mills, resulted in a very severe set-back to the growth of unions. From then until 1921, unionization in the textile industry remained scattered and sporadic.

From the beginning, it was inevitable that the opposition to labour organization in this industry would be great. This was particularly true in Quebec, where the greater part of the industry was located<sup>(2)</sup>. In the rural communities of Quebec, many people viewed with disfavour what they termed foreign or American interference in the management of union affairs. As a result, there was a tendency to oppose international unions such as the United Federation of Textile Workers of America.

In addition, national unions were also looked upon with disfavour because it was felt that they were dominated by American interests. At the same time, the management of the cotton mills was definitely opposed to organization on the part of their workers. The Montreal Cotton Company, for instance, endeavoured to prevent organization by requiring its employees to sign a contract that they would not join any union.

In addition to this opposition, the location of the primary textile industry was not conducive to the early and rapid growth of unionism among its workers. Membership in trade unions grew most quickly and earliest in the large urban centres of the country where most of the manufacturing industries were located and where, therefore, most of the factory workers were to be found.

As a result of the opposition to international and even national unions in Quebec, Catholic unions began to appear as early as 1912. By 1920, these unions had grown to such an extent that a Federation of Catholic Workers was formed. Several of the unions belonging to this federation encompassed workers in the textile industry.

During the "Twenties" and "Thirties", the Catholic unions grew steadily in the primary textile industry in Quebec. It is generally true also that the Catholic unions tended to be confined to the smaller communities while the national and international unions held sway in the larger urban centres as well as in Ontario. By 1939, the two major organizing groups in the industry were the Catholic unions and the United Textile Workers of America. (T.L.C.-A.F.L.).

The war years saw the rapid growth of union membership. By 1943,

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(2) See "Report of Royal Commission to Inquire into Industrial Disputes in the Cotton Factories of the Province of Quebec", 1909.



about 18,000 of the 50,000 workers in the textile industry were union members. In other words, about 36 per cent of the workers belonged to unions. The corresponding percentage for 1942 was 20.

The year 1944 saw a new organizing group appear in the primary textile industry. The Textile Workers Union of America (C.C.L.-C.I.O.) began organizing workers in the industry. By 1946, this union is reported to have reached a membership of approximately 12,000, thus becoming the largest organized group in the industry.

By 1945, total union membership in the textile industry had reached 28,000 or 57 per cent of all of the workers. At the same time, about 55 per cent of the workers were covered by collective bargaining agreements. During 1946, the latter percentage rose to 71. Organization and coverage by collective bargaining agreement were both greatest in the cotton mills.

At present the situation is unstable. This is a period of prosperity. Living costs are relatively high and alternative jobs are plentiful. Both of these factors are apt to result in demands for higher wages by organized labour in the textile industry.

In addition, the new international union mentioned above is continuing its drive to organize the workers in the industry. Much of the consequent aggressiveness is taking place in Quebec where the history of industrial relations in this industry is rather turbulent, where direct clashes with the old established Catholic unions are almost inevitable, where a strong nationalistic spirit exists, and where the government in power is apt to view with disfavour the disturbance of the status quo in this respect.

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following deals with April labour market conditions in each of the five regions, Maritime, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie, and Pacific.

Table I—Unplaced Applicants by Region, at Selected Dates

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

Region	May 1, 1947			April 3, 1947	May 2, 1946
	Male	Female	Total	Total	Total
Maritime.....	24,100	3,200	27,300	29,300	30,700
Quebec.....	37,100	8,600	45,700	50,100	77,800
Ontario.....	26,100	10,800	36,900	44,700	64,700
Prairie.....	22,700	6,400	29,100	35,800	40,300
Pacific.....	13,500	5,200	18,700	22,200	29,500
Canada.....	123,500	34,200	157,700	182,100	243,000

### MARITIME REGION

Job seekers decrease—The peak in job applicants registered with N.E.S. was reached by the second week in April, some six weeks later than for Canada as a whole. The expansion of seasonal employment has been delayed slightly by the late spring, but nevertheless, the peak in applicants was two weeks ahead of the 1946 high.

Weather conditions hampered farming operations throughout the region. Demand for labour showed little increase, but was expected to mount in May. However, no difficulty in filling orders was expected.

Similarly, April saw little expansion in the construction industry. Labour demand was up, with much greater activity expected for May. No overall labour shortage was anticipated, although there was a scarcity of skilled men in the "trowel" trades. The chief concern was material shortages.

Future difficulties in fishing industry—There are signs of a return to more normal, if not happier conditions in the fishing industry. The highest wholesale price index number for fishery products was reached at the end of 1946. A decline now has set in. As domestic demand for fish lessens with more plentiful supplies of meat and as export demand falls off with the end of U.N.R.R.A. and with increasing trade difficulties, the Atlantic fisheries must prepare to face the severe competition of other countries and other products. The present position is one of greatly increased holdings in cold storage from a year ago and offalling prices.

At Yarmouth, in spite of the ending of the fishermen's strike, the demand for workers in the fish processing plants showed no improvement in April. This was attributed to falling prices and the heavy stocks being held in the American market. No improvement in demand was expected until the landing of the herring catches about the end of May.

Lobster fishing, which begins on May 1 in the Inverness area, was expected to employ a substantial number of the unemployed in the area. However, this profitable branch of the fishing industry is feeling great uncertainty as to this year's price. From Charlottetown came the report that prices may be less than 50 per cent of the average for the past three years.

Employment trend down--The trend of employment, adjusted for seasonal fluctuations, fell noticeably in the first two months of the year. This fall can be directly attributed to the strike in the coal mining industry. (1) With the cessation of the strike, employment will immediately show an uptrend. But the possibility of the closing of the less profitable mines must be considered. There is also the further possibility of higher fuel costs to heavy industry and a resulting adjustment of the work force.

#### Halifax

Shipbuilding was the stronghold of the iron and steel manufacturing industry in Halifax. This industry has been a failing source of employment since the war's end, and future prospects are, at the moment, vague. A further decrease in shipbuilding employment can be expected this coming year.

Foodstuffs, confectionery, textiles, and other small branches of manufacturing are on a much more stable footing. While many women could be absorbed in such industry, job prospects for men are strictly limited, because of the nature of the work.

The effect of seasonality on waterfront employment now is in full force. Port activity has fallen off to a marked degree and it is expected that not more than 400 of the total waterfront force of 1,500 will be employed at any one time during the summer months. There is little chance of these men securing work in other industry.

The deep-sea fishing fleet has been very active since the settlement of the recent strike and large catches of fish have in turn revived employment in fish packing plants. Most of the old employees have been rehired and there now is a demand for fish handlers, cutters and skinners.

To date the heavy lay-offs in shipbuilding and the seasonal slump in transportation have built up a heavy surplus of male applicants. As yet, construction work has not taken up much slack. At any rate it is doubtful that employment will recover to any extent until the fall of 1947 at least.

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(1) The strike was terminated May 24, 1947.

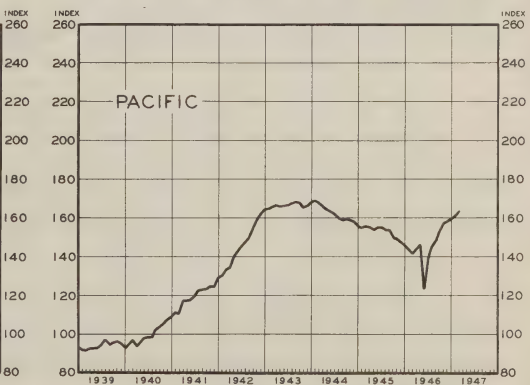
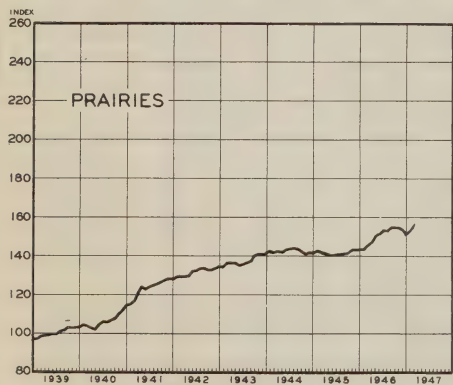
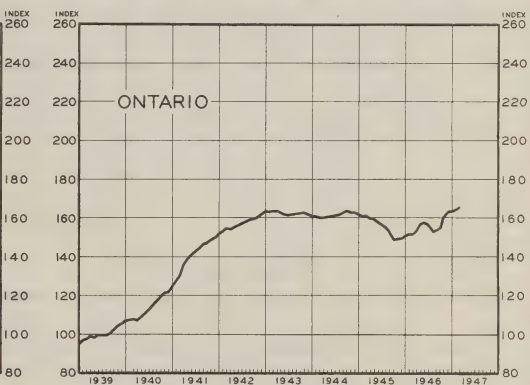
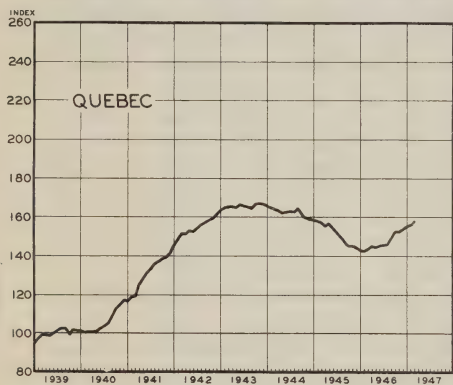
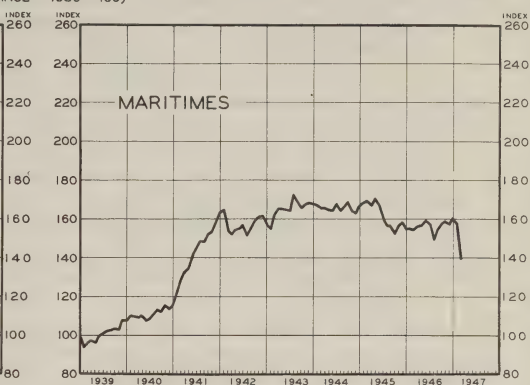
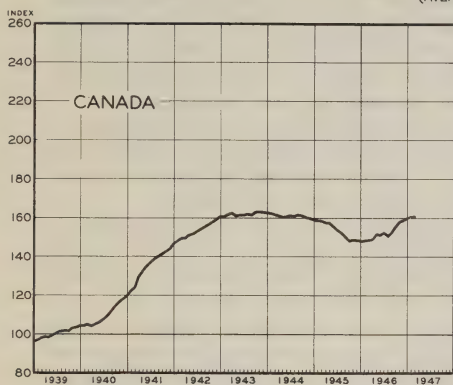


# REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

FROM 1939 TO 1947

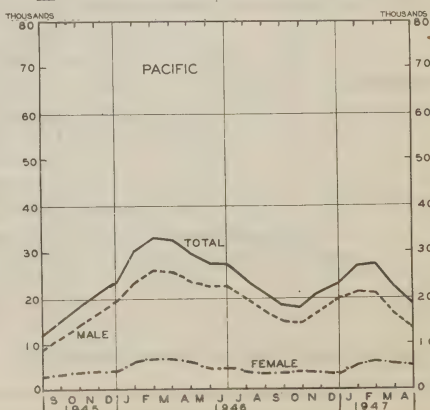
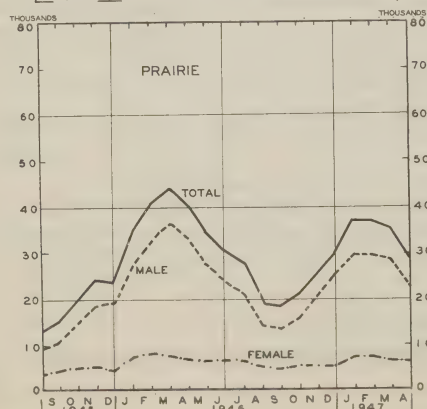
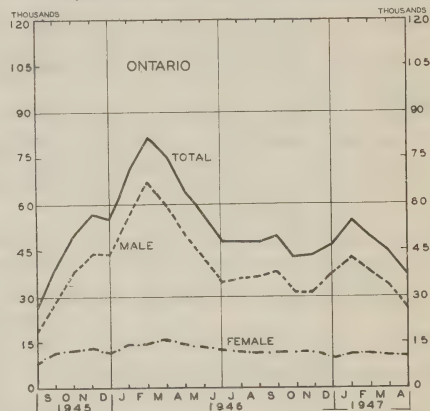
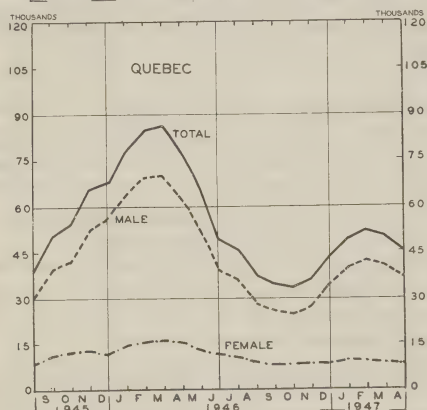
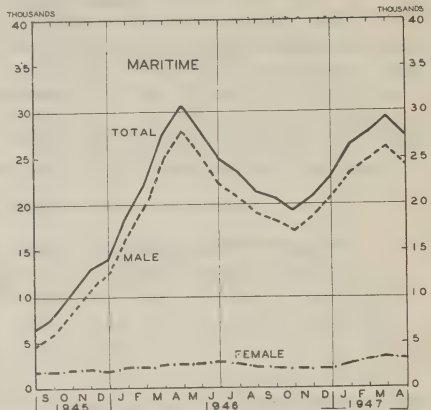
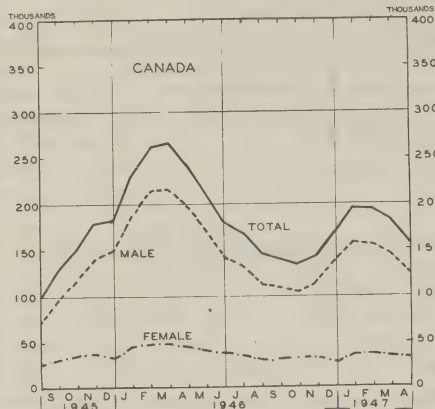
(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)



# REGIONAL UNPLACED APPLICANTS

AS REPORTED BY THE

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



### New Glasgow - Pictou

The recent downtrend in the number of unplaced applicants is due to increased activity in agriculture, fishing and fish processing plants, and sawmills. Apparently demand is light for workers in the construction industry at the moment. The past two months have seen little change in the volume of work in progress.

While the decline in iron and steel manufacturing, including shipbuilding, has been drastic in the past eighteen months, employment has finally reached a stable, if low, level from which some estimate of future activity can be made.

The shipbuilding industry in Pictou which now employs about 60 men has submitted tenders on a considerable volume of ship repair work. It is hoped that about 200 men may be employed this summer if contracts materialize. Shipbuilding has a decidedly uncertain future.

As was reported last month the Eastern Car Company and several other iron and steel plants will be busy for some time on an order for railway rolling stock. Employment fluctuations have been marked in the Eastern Car Company during the past year. Due to lack of materials in some cases but largely to lack of continuity in contracts it has been very difficult to estimate future employment. But the present contract on hand should keep this company busy for many months.

Employment in manufacturing at March 1, 1946 is about one-sixth of the wartime peak. Shipbuilding, the most vulnerable industry, was hit badly after the war but there remains some possibility of limited activity in the Pictou yards during the coming summer.

### Sydney

The coal miners' strike continues to drag out. (2) It is not yet known if the level of employment in coal mining, which is vital to this area's economy, will reach the pre-strike level. There have been statements to the effect that many of the men working before the strike were either over age or physically unsatisfactory.

In any event, it will be some time before this area makes a comeback from the overall effects of the strike, which had an adverse effect on nearly every other industry. Consumer purchasing power has dwindled markedly.

Prospects for increased employment in coal mining and iron and steel manufacturing (Dosco) are improbable, and an employment reduction possible, if over age and physically unfit men are released from mining. Even with the revival of coal mining as a source of employment, the number of unplaced applicants will continue to be substantial, as employment opportunities in industry as a whole will continue to be light.

Recently some 150 men were transferred to jobs in Ontario; about 500 more will probably be transferred. In spite of these transfers, however, this area is faced with the prospect of having about 4,000 men registered for employment during the summer months. Of this

(2) Settlement was finally effected May 24, 1947.



number, possibly 500 are unemployable.

Currently, supplies of coal for the operation of the steel plant are holding out but 200 men have been laid-off because of mechanical breakdowns.

Transportation by rail is at a low ebb because of the coal shortage. Retail and wholesale trade continue to reflect dwindling consumer purchasing power.

### Saint John

Port activity has slackened considerably as most shipping now is converging on Montreal. Consequently, many dock workers will be idle until the opening of the winter port next fall unless they secure work in other industry.

Despite the seasonal nature of shipping in this port, the level of employment in the busy season should remain relatively higher than in the pre-war period so long as export-import trade continues high. The value of exports and imports increased from one and a half billion dollars in early 1939 to more than four billion dollars at the end of 1946. While this trade is necessarily diverted through many channels in entering or leaving Canada, St. John, second largest seaport on Canada's eastern seaboard certainly benefited from the overall increase in volume of trade.

The shipbuilding industry in St. John depends mostly on ship repair work for current business. This type of work is seasonal in nature in the sense that most of the ships entering the port do so in the winter port season. While current world shipping need for repairs may sustain employment at a fairly high level through the coming winter, it is likely that a cut-back will occur in the meantime. Thus the significance of shipbuilding as a source of employment in this city will probably dwindle.

Male unplaced applicants have declined in numbers since last month, chiefly because of accelerated building activity. The shortage of female help is becoming more severe. A high percentage of the female job seekers are registered in trades for which they cannot meet hiring specifications, and they refuse to take alternative work.

### QUEBEC REGION

Agriculture and construction retarded by late spring—Farm labour demand did not increase to any extent in April. Persistent cold weather delayed spring seeding two to three weeks and little work on the land was done. It was already evident, however, that the farm labour supply would not be sufficient to meet demand. Low wages and long working hours restrict the number interested in farm work.

There was little construction underway in April. By the end of the month work was commencing, interrupted in many areas by wet weather. Local labour shortages of carpenters, bricklayers, plumbers, electricians were present, becoming more general as building activity increased.

River drive late this year--The spring drive of the logging industry was delayed two to three weeks because of freezing weather. Ice on lakes and rivers had just begun to clear by the end of April and it was expected that the drive would not begin before. Most cutting ceased and work was done preparing camps for the driving operations. There was sufficient labour on hand; companies hired the necessary men in the immediate locality.

Employment up in iron and steel manufacturing groups--Iron and steel manufacturing expanded, the production of steel increasing. Material supply difficulties still held back full production in the heavy transportation industry in Montreal, but it was hoped that mid-summer would see greater supplies of steel on hand. Shipbuilding at Quebec City had need of fuller supplies of steel. Labour demand was higher, with unskilled and semi-skilled workers available but skilled men more difficult to find.

#### Chicoutimi

The Chicoutimi-Arvida labour market area is expected to reach new peacetime highs in industrial expansion and employment in 1947. The Aluminum Company of Canada's 1946 output more than tripled the pre-war peak, and further expansion is planned for 1947.

Employment at the Aluminum Company remained stationary during April, a temporary shortage of pitch and lack of coal delaying projected expansion.

The future of the aluminum industry in Canada is almost entirely dependent on continued world demand, as 90 per cent of the Arvida output is for export, with only 10 per cent being retained for the domestic market.

The Alcan plant at Arvida with its cheap electric power and comparatively low priced labour is responsible for Canada's present position as the second largest aluminum producer in the world. The chances of maintaining this position look favourable.

#### Montreal

Employment conditions on the whole showed an improvement during April, although production in some industries continued to be limited by shortages of both raw materials and labour.

The acute shortage of female labour is making itself felt with increasing intensity. Textile mills are having difficulty in obtaining adequate female help, particularly for the second shift. One local textile firm reports that it could absorb about 900 to 1,00 extra workers.

Production in the radio manufacturing industry continues to be held up by the lack of female workers. Paper box factories, food products manufacturing, laundries, hotels and restaurants all report a shortage of female labour. Stenographers and typists are almost impossible to obtain.

Despite the enormous number of jobs available, female unemployed applicants increased about 10 per cent during April. Temporary lay-offs occurring in highly paid industries, account for the rise, released personnel being unwilling to take lower paid jobs.

It is evident that most employers will not accept married women, a sizable number of whom are seeking employment. This situation creates the anomaly of experienced women being without jobs in the face of substantial labour demand.

The surplus of male job seekers is gradually lessening as employment opportunities become more varied and numerous. Employment uptrends are most noticeable in construction, transportation, and heavy iron and steel manufacturing.

### Quebec

The normal spring employment upswing has been somewhat modified by adverse weather conditions and shortages of materials in some industries. Thus during the past month only a slight improvement was noted in the Quebec labour market picture.

At the beginning of April, demand for farm labour was strong, but slackened off towards the end of the month as heavy rains and cold weather delayed spring planting.

Adverse weather has also curbed activity in the construction industry. Many important building projects are planned for the coming months which, if carried out, will bring about a decided shortage of construction tradesmen and labourers. Volume of building activity is dependent on the availability of materials, and as yet it is too early to ascertain what the supply situation will be.

The St. Lawrence Metal and Marine Company is still awaiting delivery of steel before starting work on its contract to build four vessels for export. Deliveries are expected by mid-May, at which time the required labour will be hired. This company expects to take on an additional 1,000 men within the next six months.

A number of industries which have been established in the St. Malo arsenals will shortly begin production. Combined with seasonal employment increases in agriculture, construction, and tourist trade, this development will help to reduce the substantial number of unplaced applicants in this labour market area.

### Shawinigan Falls

The latest employment figures (March 1, 1947) are approximately equal to those of August 1, 1946 when employment hit the annual high. If the present gradual but consistent expansion continues during the summer, and this is most likely, a new post-war high in employment will be reached.

Not only will the level of employment in year-round established industry be higher this year, but employment in construction work on industrial enterprises alone, will soon employ about 2,000 men. Private construction is also active.

The Aluminum Company of Canada is gradually increasing its staff and work on a new addition to the present plant is underway. Shawinigan Chemicals has increased production now that steel barrels are once more available for shipping. Summer labour is being hired by Canadian Carborundum to fill in for regular employees at present commencing holidays.



Woods operations are continuing but as the river drive has been delayed by prolonged cold weather, there is no demand for river drivers as yet.

Current employment cut-backs are centered in glove and shoe manufacturing plants, some of which are on a three-day-week because of insufficient supplies of raw materials. However, these plants expect to resume full production in a few weeks' time.

### Sherbrooke

In view of the tight labour supply situation in the textile industry (diversified), and the shortage of highly skilled metal workers in secondary iron and steel (principally Canadian Ingersoll-Rand) it is doubtful if the fall of 1947 will see any unprecedented gain in employment in manufacturing and, particularly in textiles. However, total reported employment shows a gain compared to the mid-winter months of 1946-47 and is also higher than a year ago. Unemployment, in turn, is light.

The shortage of suitable types of female labour is general. For present textile mills to be fully staffed many women would be required. When the Bruce Silk Mill commences operation sometime this year, 400 workers will be needed. However, textile managements, aware of the acute shortage of help, are concentrating on maintaining present staffs. Further, many textile companies are considering future competition from British and American markets and thus feel that if more skilled help were available, present employment is adequate for the long term.

Currently, the reluctance of female workers to accept work on night shifts in woollen and cotton mills is a source of difficulty. Turnover is high.

Hosiery and glove mills are working at capacity but state that the short supply of skilled help is curtailing production.

### Three Rivers

The first quarter of 1947 saw little improvement in the employment situation in Three Rivers. Unplaced applicants increased slightly and the number of job openings remained virtually unchanged during the period.

Employment levels in the shoe, glove, and garment manufacturing industries remained static, with temporary lay-offs occurring from time to time because of irregular material deliveries.

The pulp and paper industry work force increased only slightly between January 1 and May 1. However, local mills indicate that several hundred additional workers will be required within the next three months.

The Marine Industries Limited at Sorel is planning an extensive employment expansion program this summer. As local labour supply will fall short of demand, additional workers will be brought in from nearby centres. N.E.S. placement officers at Three Rivers estimate that two hundred workers will be sent from this city to work in the Marine Industries shipyards at Sorel.

Despite a seasonal upswing in construction and agriculture, and an anticipated busy navigation season, a sizable labour surplus will remain throughout this summer.

### Valleyfield

Although agricultural activity has been delayed by adverse weather conditions and construction is well below last year's level. Unplaced applicants in Valleyfield at May 1, 1947, numbered 571, less than half the total of 1,173 job seekers registered at the corresponding date last year.

The rapid growth of the War Assets Corporation clothing reclamation depot of Valleyfield has done much to reduce the number of unplaced applicants during the past year. This firm, which now has a payroll of over 1,400, has taken on approximately 700 new employees since November 1, 1946.

During the past twelve months noticeable employment gains also took place in the chemical industry, garment manufacturing, and alcoholic beverages manufacturing.

All textile manufacturing firms in this area report a need for additional help. Unskilled factory workers are most urgently required, while skilled and semi-skilled textile workers are in moderately short supply. Orders for unskilled female workers have been placed in clearance throughout the Quebec region. However, it is doubtful whether the low wages offering in the textile industry will attract many workers from other centres.

## ONTARIO REGION

Registered vacancies exceed applicants--Applicants for jobs on N.E.S. files decreased in April at a faster rate than in March. By the end of April there were more vacancies listed than applicants. This demand is not centred in one or two occupations, but exists in almost every field of work, giving an indication of tremendous industrial activity.

There are, however, considerable pockets of unemployment in the region, Ottawa and Windsor being the more notable. The great labour shortage of the Toronto area tends to blot out such variations in the regional labour demand and supply picture.

Late spring slows employment upturn--Although bad weather in April both curtailed work on the land and limited labour requirements, there were indications of a serious shortage of farm help for the coming season. Many farmers showed interest in the possibility of obtaining immigrant labour.

As in the Maritimes and Quebec, construction work began rather slowly, hindered first by cold weather, then by rain throughout most of the region. The potential demand for labour is large - the labour supply situation may be critical by mid-summer. The tight labour market has strengthened the position of organized labour groups in the industry and additional demands for increased wages and union security are probable.

High production goals in manufacturing--Heavy orders on hand pushed industrial production to even greater activity in April. It is evident that labour requirements will soon outdistance supply. Further, shortages of materials, in particular, steel and lumber, cramp production schedules. Steel mills are working at full capacity, but report labour



shortages. The demand for foundry workers is reminiscent of wartime demand. Moulders and heavy labourers are especially needed. Both agricultural implement plants and shipbuilding yards reported that intermittent supplies of steel hampered the hiring of additional labour. Electrical goods manufacturers were troubled by the thin flow of component parts - e.g. fractional motors, transformers. Furniture manufacturers wanted more lumber and more workers - cabinet makers and machine hands. The textile, food processing, leather, rubber and printing and publishing industries, to name only a part, all felt the increasing pressure of inadequate labour supply.

### Brantford

The employment situation in Brantford was somewhat obscure towards the end of April. The enforced lay-off of some 600 workers in the agricultural implement industry resulted from the refusal to work of 24 iron pourers, and temporarily inflated the number of unplaced applicants in the area. On May 11, all workers returned to their jobs and the demand-supply situation resumed its former condition of labour scarcity.

Heavy industry, particularly the Massey-Harris agricultural implement plant, supports the bulk of employment in the area. Current activity is at the wartime level. The Massey-Harris Co. has been recruiting workers from Nova Scotia - about 80 have been brought in so far. Moulders, coremakers, forge machine operators, drill press operators, pattern makers, etc., are still required. The Canadian Car and Foundry Ltd. need more workers because of the additional orders they acquired when the Smith Falls foundry burned down.

The textile industry reports an even greater labour demand, with a decreased supply to meet it. Establishment of a silk industry in the Brantford area is planned for next year.

Construction was not so active as expected, but will speed up with improved weather conditions.

### Hamilton

The majority of firms in the heavy iron and steel manufacturing group, whose employment dropped during the steel strike of last summer, have recovered their losses, and in most cases have further increased their staffs. Indications are that this expansion in heavy industry will continue for some months to come, if the required labour is available. Over 200 general factory labourers could be placed immediately in this industry if they could be obtained. Skilled and semi-skilled metal workers are also in short supply.

The Steel Company of Canada (which produces 40 per cent of Canada's total output of iron and steel) now maintains a larger staff than at any time in the history of the company. Despite this all-out effort to step up the production of basic supplies, several of the smaller steel-using factories are still short of material and are having difficulty in obtaining transportation for their products. Spasmodic lay-offs will continue until the situation improves.

On the whole, the employment situation is rapidly improving. During the past month job vacancies have increased by one-fourth and the number of unplaced applicants showed a sharp drop. Already, construction workers are in extremely short supply, with bricklayers and painter practically unobtainable.



### Kingston

As the summer season approaches, the local N.E.S. office is once again swamped with students applying for temporary jobs to tide them over until college opens in the fall. Some local firms are taking on extra help to replace regular employees on annual leave but jobs offering will not be sufficient to absorb all applicants. The Aluminum Company of Canada will hire 75 students for the summer and Canadian Industries, 10 or 12.

The Canadian Locomotive Company has laid-off several men from their machine shop division. Further staff reductions will occur in the near future unless additional contracts are received.

The navigation season now is in full swing. Hiring activity in this field has been satisfactory. At present, labour demand in the water transportation industry is very small.

The construction industry is becoming increasingly active as the weather becomes milder. All available carpenters, plumbers, sheet metal workers, and bricklayers are employed, and construction labourers are in constant demand.

### Kitchener-Waterloo

The high level of employment, coupled with a similar high demand for nearly all types of labour, would give the casual observer the impression that if labour were available unprecedented expansion in industry would take place.

But the fact is that industry in this city is merely trying to build up staff sufficiently, to operate at capacity in order to meet present high consumer demand for nearly all Kitchener's products.

However, the most reliable, if incomplete, information indicates that, in most cases, established firms do not contemplate expanding their present plant facilities. In any event, plant expansion would be impracticable until labour becomes available. Similarly, new industry is prevented from entering Kitchener until such time as it is practicable to bring in labour.

The crux of the problem is that the tight local labour situation, which is retarding production in some industries, cannot be remedied at present because of the severe lack of living accommodation for outside workers. Housing construction is itself retarded by the great shortage of skilled and unskilled construction workers.

### London

The month of April marked a further improvement in the employment situation in the London labour market area.

Heavy manufacturing plants report a progressive easing of the steel shortage which has hindered production in the majority of steel-using plants for the past six months. Scrap iron and pig iron now are in fair supply locally, with the latter becoming increasingly popular because of its lower price.

Local glass factories which depend on firms in the United States for supplies state that insufficient material deliveries are a serious threat to steady production. However, an improvement in the flow of material supplies is expected shortly.

In the face of growing industrial expansion and the seasonal upswing in construction and the service industries, the gap between employers' requirements and the available labour supply is rapidly widening. Demand for female workers is particularly heavy in the textile and service industries. In the male labour field, the majority of job openings are for construction tradesmen, skilled and semi-skilled metal workers and heavy labourers.

### Niagara Falls

During April, unplaced applicants continued to edge downward. Currently, production in the food processing industry is gradually increasing with female unskilled workers in heavy demand. Local abrasive and chemical plants still are in urgent need of heavy labour, the demand for which will increase further when factory additions now under construction are completed.

Tourist trade, an important source of employment in the Niagara Falls area, is becoming increasingly active as the summer season approaches. Hotels, restaurants and retail stores have already started to take on additional help in anticipation of a heavy summer influx of tourists.

All indications point to 1947 being a record year for the construction industry. A number of factories are enlarging present plant facilities. Permits have been granted to build twenty-two wartime housing units, in addition to the several business blocks now in the initial stages of construction.

### Oshawa

An unexpected improvement in the material supply situation in the automobile industry has brightened the employment outlook here. The shortage of auto body metal which has slowed down production at General Motors for the past several months now has been overcome, with an adequate supply of metal sheets guaranteed until at least October. Consequently, the progressive staff reduction at General Motors has been halted and 14 men have been added to the payrolls as the first step towards an increased production program.

On April 29, 250 production-line employees of the G.M. passenger car department went out on strike, in protest against the speed-up program. This was followed immediately by a lay-off of 2,000 men. However, the walk-out was short-lived, and both strikers and non-strikers were back on the job by May 5.

Other industries in Oshawa report an improvement in material supply deliveries. Resulting from the combined employment increases in both seasonal and non-seasonal industries the number of unplaced applicants is gradually being reduced.

### Peterborough

Currently, nearly all manufacturing plants report increased activity. As a result employment is on the upturn. Canadian General Electric now has more material on hand - in only one day 32 more men were taken on than were hired in any one month from December to March. Canada Packers

have recovered from their recent slump and a heavy flow of livestock has necessitated the hiring of many men. Only two plants report a recession of activity and employment: Quaker Oats (lack of oats), and Canadian Raybestos (formerly lack of materials, now cancellation of orders).

By October 1947 it is probable that overall employment will show further increases and will reach an employment level roughly equivalent to the war-time peak; employment will at least achieve a new post-war high by fall, unless unforeseen circumstances intervene.

Construction is booming. As was anticipated there is a marked shortage of construction labourers. There are some applicants on file but either through inability to meet age specifications or physical requirements or for various other reasons, are not suitable for this type of work.

Since last month, the 180 veterans on file have been reduced to 87; 27 in Peterborough, and 67 scattered throughout the rest of the area which extends north for 90 miles. Some of these men from outlying districts could be placed in the city if living accommodation was available.

#### St. Catharines

The highlights of the April employment picture were (1) increased activity in the construction field and (2) a sharp upturn in demand for general factory labour.

Due to improved weather conditions during April, work was started on a number of building projects scheduled for this season. Skilled workers, apprentices and labourers are in heavy demand, with applicants becoming more scarce as employment opens up.

In the construction industry job openings for male labourers increased from 64 at April 3 to 171 at May 1. Foundries and forge shops, which lose a sizable number of men to agriculture in summer, are most affected by the current shortage of husky labour. Orders for 50 men have been placed with employment offices throughout Nova Scotia, as the first step toward bringing in workers from labour surplus areas to help relieve the shortage here.

At present, vacancies are most numerous for skilled and semi-skilled metal workers, construction tradesmen and labourers. On the other hand, applicants for clerical jobs are far in excess of current demand.

#### Sault Ste. Marie

The Algoma Steel Corporation and the Abitibi Power and Paper Company engage 88 per cent of all reported manufacturing employment. Both plants are working at full capacity and are relatively fully staffed. In view of this, manufacturing employment probably will not show any unprecedented gains this year. But at the same time, most suitable workers are employed full-time.

A fair number of labourers were placed with Algoma Steel during April. More men will probably be hired in May for unloading ore boats at the steel plant. Labourers have also been placed with the Algoma Ore Properties.



Navigation is once again in full swing at this port but placements on lake steamers are light. Sectionmen and extra gang labourers are in good demand for the Algoma Central and Hudson Bay Railway.

At May 1, male unplaced applicants numbered 143, compared to 941 vacancies. Disregarding the 526 vacancies for loggers a shortage of 272 men still remains. About 40 skilled construction tradesmen are required with none available. Further, 300 unskilled construction workers are needed, with available labour very scarce.

#### Sudbury

The great nickel and copper mines and smelters of International Nickel have been on a wartime production basis for many months. Inco is continuously advertising for miners and process labourers "between 19 and 39 years of age and in good health". At least 500 men are required in local mines and about 200 more could be absorbed in refining operations.

Inco is presently engaged in an eight or nine million dollar project for a new smelting and sintering process - a short cut from the nickel smelters to the steel mills. This new short cut in refining methods is expected to require fewer men than the old process. Some employment cut-backs may take place in the Port Colborne refinery, as much of the work now being done by the refinery at Port Colborne will be diverted through the new plant being built at Copper Cliff. However, it will be some time before this new plant comes into production. Until it does present staffs and labour requirements will continue at the current level. The copper refinery at Copper Cliff will not be affected, as the new process affects only nickel production.

Labour turnover in the mining industry continues heavy, and applicants are very scarce. Lack of housing facilities has been a big stumbling block in securing labour. The construction of over a hundred workers' homes will remedy this situation to some extent.

Currently both agriculture and the spring logging drive have been held up by a very late spring. Unless the weather improves the crop will be poor. In addition, sawmills will not be able to open up until early in June.

#### Toronto

Unfilled vacancies continue to outnumber by far the unplaced applicants in this area. The gap is growing steadily wider. Currently there are more than three jobs available for each applicant on file.

Manufacturing industries report a sustained labour demand in almost all fields. Machine shop trades are very active, and most orders can be filled readily. The call for welders is spasmodic, but the men available are not first-class workers. One foundry company is recruiting skilled moulders in England and Scotland.

The larger electrical equipment companies such as Canadian General Electric, are operating at peak production, but shortages of small electrical parts, transformers and fractional motors are still serious in other industries; labour demand is heavy. The greatest difficulty for the radio industry is the desperate shortage of female help.

An order from Noranda Mines for 225 beginners was withdrawn because of the lack of experienced miners. The proportion of beginners to skilled men should be about 4 to 1.

Favourable weather has stimulated demand for construction workers. Skilled tradesmen of all kinds and general labourers are in short supply. University students will ease the situation somewhat in the latter category for the summer.

In residential construction, a marked increase in "For Sale" signs on new houses may indicate that the industry is pricing itself out of the market.

#### Welland

As at March 1, 1947 total reported manufacturing employment was 8,895, a nine per cent increase over the corresponding figure for February 1, 1946. Currently, primary and secondary iron and steel comprise 70 per cent of total manufacturing employment in the Welland local office area. Employment in the latter industry has increased 30 per cent since the termination of the steel strike in October.

At present, a temporary shortage of skelp is retarding production at Page Hersey Tubes (manufacturers of wrought black, and galvanized pipe). However, employees directly affected by the tie-up are being absorbed by other departments of the plant.

Atlas Steels report production levels for the first quarter of 1947 to be well above those of January, February, and March of last year. For as long as raw materials are available, present production schedules and employment levels will be maintained.

The John Deere Plow Company is in need of 300 male labourers to replace men returning to agriculture for the summer. Orders for these men have been placed in clearance. It is hoped some of the required workers will be obtained in Nova Scotia, a labour surplus area.

Job vacancies are most numerous in the iron and steel manufacturing industry, with male unskilled labour urgently required. In most cases additional workers will have to be brought in from other centres as the local supply of suitable labour is insufficient to meet current demand.

#### Windsor

The employment situation showed a decided improvement during the past month, with male unplaced applicants falling 1,100 during the month to reach 2,200 at the end of April. This is almost entirely traceable to large scale hirings at the Ford Motor Company, and the subsequent boost in employment levels in local feeder plants.

General Motors is still operating on a four-day week schedule because of a shortage of steel, but all other steel-using plants in the area appear to have sufficient supplies.

Improved weather conditions have brought about an increased demand for farm labour and construction workers. This demand will continue to grow as the season advances.

The number of female applicants has shown very little change during the past six months, owing to the fact that in the automobile industry employment is predominantly male. At present, there are fewer than 100 job openings for women, while applicants have passed the 1,700 mark. However, forthcoming seasonal expansion in the service industries should bring about a slight reduction in the large number of female job-seekers.



## PRAIRIE REGION

The response of the labour market to the opening of seasonal work was shown in the increasing downtrend in the number of job applicants.

Farm work delayed by late spring--The increase in the demand for agricultural labour was slowed by cold weather, with seeding two weeks late in some areas. There was no great shortage of workers, but the lower-paid jobs were not readily filled.

Farm wages varied a great deal from area to area, \$60 - \$90 a month appearing to be the range for skilled workers, with wages for the unskilled somewhat less. Unskilled workers, therefore, indicated preferences for work in construction and other industries, even though they had to wait for employment.

Slight seasonal expansion in food products manufacturing--In April, employment in plants engaged in the manufacturing of food products climbed a little from the seasonal low-point at the beginning of the month. Receipts of livestock increased at several centres so that packing houses rehired previously laid-off employees. However, little activity in the meat packing industry will be evident for some months.

Employment in dairies grew in many centres when an increase in the sugar allotment enabled increased ice cream production. Creameries got ready for the usual upswing in butter production, but a feeling of uncertainty existed concerning the effect of the removal of subsidies and of the rumoured discontinuance of rationing. The poultry industry approached its busy season, with hatcheries hiring additional help and packing houses taking on egg candlers and egg breakers.

Building products manufacturing active--Heavy demands from the construction industry have built up a large backlog of orders which will keep the building products manufacturers very busy. The let-up of cold weather permitted brickyards, cement plants, etc., to step up production. Sawmills in the Lakehead area hired additional labour to be ready for the winter cut of logs.

Heavy labour requirements in construction industry--Work on residential and industrial building got underway in April with almost all experienced tradesmen in employment. Highway work was delayed by the late spring but other public building added to the demand for skilled tradesmen and labourers. Already a definite tightness in the supply of construction labour is evident.

### Edmonton

Manufacturing industry in Edmonton employs about 4,500 fewer employees than non-manufacturing. While there are many small industries the bulk of employment opportunities for men in manufacturing are centered in the foodstuffs industry. The largest sources of employment for women in manufacturing are confined to the textile industry and some branches of



the foodstuffs industry. The main burden is placed on non-manufacturing, particularly agriculture, to absorb the major part of the unemployed.

Currently local employment operations are confined to the lumber products, construction, transportation, and agricultural industries. Labour requirements in meat packing plants are at a seasonal low and employment has dropped markedly. Other employment activities at the moment largely concern miners and loggers; men for sawmills, and for a pulp and paper mill, who have been sent to B.C. to work.

Inclement weather conditions have retarded farming operations, and prevented the hiring of many men; as the season progresses additional manpower will be required. Construction work has accelerated, creating a high demand for labour. While there is a good chance of employment for the carpenters, miners, and labourers on file, employment opportunities for male "white collar" workers will remain light.

#### Fort William and Port Arthur

Pulp and paper manufacturing is by far the largest employer of year-round manufacturing labour. All established paper mills are working full-time and expansion and modernization of plant facilities in 1946 was general. New paper mills have opened up at Marathon, Brompton and Red Rock, and another mill is being constructed at Terrace. New construction will guarantee increased employment in pulp and paper manufacturing in 1947, over and above the hundreds of men busily engaged in the actual construction work.

It must not be forgotten that expansion in pulp and paper manufacturing ensures jobs for thousands of loggers.

The two other larger sources of manufacturing employment are the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company and the Canadian Car and Foundry Company.

The shipbuilding industry was established in 1910. The two peak employment levels occurred during the two world wars. Future long term trends of employment in shipbuilding are generally conceded to be downward. However, the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company has nearly 50 per cent of its production assigned to producing pulp and paper machinery, millwork, and miscellaneous articles. This helps to compensate for the fluctuations in employment in shipbuilding and repairing. Currently, orders for new ships will ensure increased employment during 1947 if materials are plentiful.

The Canadian Car and Foundry Company now is producing busses. As this is an entirely new venture future production levels are hard to foresee. At the moment, however, employment is high and will probably remain so during the coming year.

The number of unplaced applicants in Fort William and Port Arthur have declined markedly since last month. The opening of navigation gave immediate employment to about 500 men and construction work also increased its tempo.

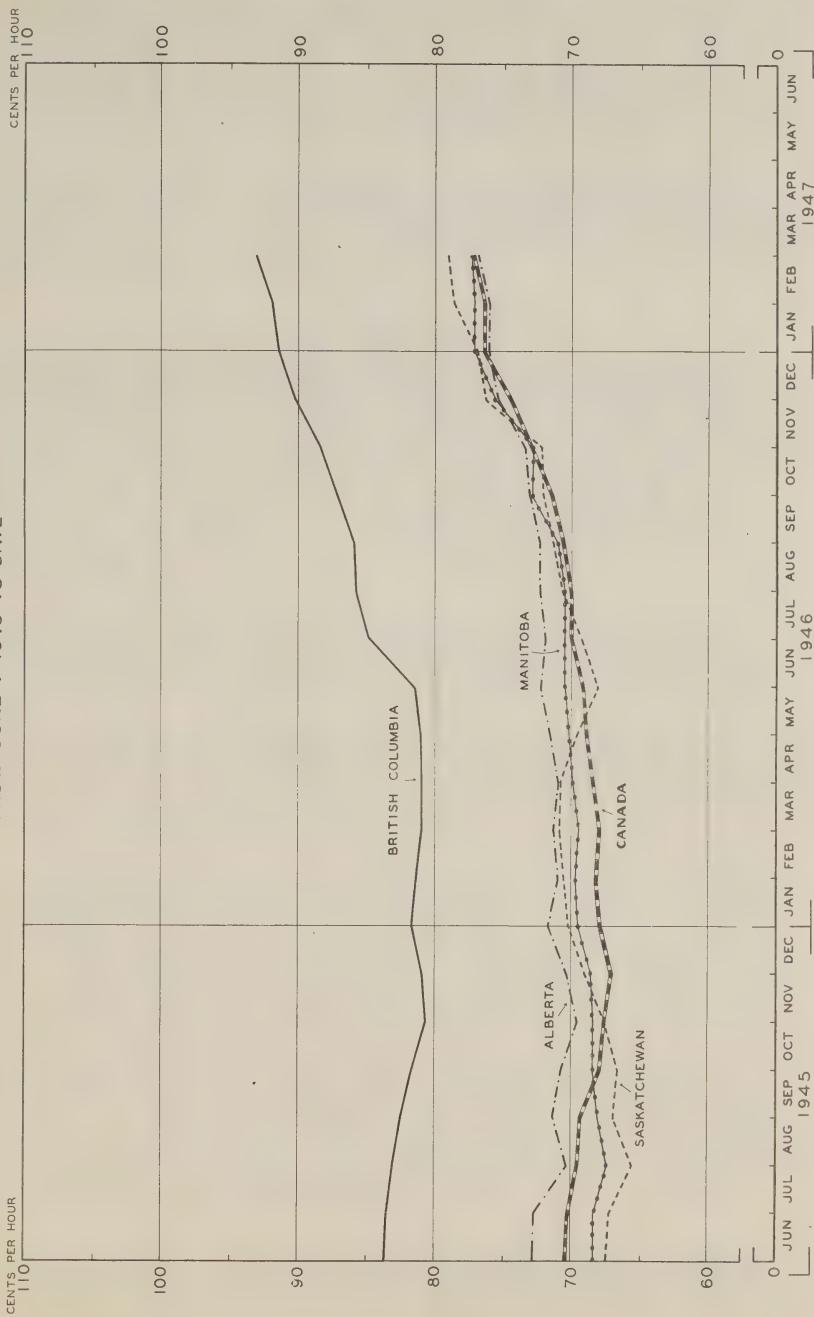
#### Winnipeg

Since last month improved supplies of steel and other materials have enabled local plants to increase production and employment. A boost to year round manufacturing employment will be provided by the establishment of a large manufacturing plant in Winnipeg - Leeder's Limited, a two million dollar enterprise to produce household appliances. This factory intends to employ 4,000 workers within eighteen months after opening.

# AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS OF WAGE EARNERS IN MANUFACTURING

MANITOBA - SASKATCHEWAN - ALBERTA - BRITISH COLUMBIA

FROM JUNE 1 1945 TO DATE



SOURCE: EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL STATISTICS BRANCH - D.B.S.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M.2-R.2





International Harvester Company of Canada will construct a half-million dollar farm equipment and industrial branch house in Winnipeg.

The demand for agricultural labour is heavy and N.E.S. placements have been high; as yet there is no shortage of labour. Construction work has opened up; with the exception of some types of skilled tradesmen, labour is still plentiful. The coming year promises a very active building program.

Employment in meat packing plants now is at its seasonal low. But the seasonal downturn of employment in this industry is counteracted, as the low period in the meat packing industry coincides with the seasonal uptrend in agriculture and construction work.

## PACIFIC REGION

Shortages of key personnel restrict employment expansion--The downtrend in the number of unplaced applicants continued throughout April, although at a slower rate than in March. The deterrent factor of the shortage of highly-skilled experienced workers, especially in logging and in mining, made it increasingly difficult to absorb unskilled and semi-skilled labour. This factor, however, was not solely the cause of the slowness with which the numbers of job seekers shrank. Many workers preferred to wait for jobs to open up in the cities rather than to accept employment elsewhere.

Expectations of a good crop year--The agricultural upswing got well underway in April. Most labour requirements were filled locally, but there were many indications of an approaching shortage of field workers. Ideal weather conditions prevailed on the lower mainland for the planting of all crops.

Berry picking will probably start by the beginning of June, with a bumper crop expected. In the Okanagan, estimates of the 1947 apple crop are at over 80 per cent of the \$25 million 1946 harvest. Other fruit crop estimates equal or exceed last year's harvest.

Labour uncertainty in the logging industry--A dispute between the I.W.A. and operators over the interpretation of a clause in the 1946 agreement concerning length of the work week between the first of April and the end of June caused some disturbance in the industry during April. Many loggers, especially in the Island logging districts, worked a forty-hour week only, until an arbitration board ruled that coast loggers are required to work a forty-eight hour week from April 1 to June 20, when the present labour contract expires.

Negotiations on the new contract began towards the end of the month with the union proposing a forty-hour week and a wage increase of 20 cents an hour. The operators replied with the offer of a forty-four-hour week, accompanied by a request for financial guarantees for performance of contract. The discussions have been proceeding normally. Threats of a work stoppage were put forth and withdrawn.

Rising costs, labour and material shortages hamper construction--The demand for all types of labour, both skilled and unskilled, for construction work, rose noticeably in April. Qualified applicants with tools were scarce.

The large road building program will require heavy equipment operators in large numbers, plus many unskilled workers. Mounting costs led to a recommendation that the provincial government increase from 15 to 30 per cent the amounts of contracts for road projects, to be effective on work done since April 1, 1946. Some contractors had been reported facing bankruptcy.

The large expansion projects of the public utilities created a serious shortage of high tension linesmen and cable splicers. In this field of construction, unskilled labour will also be required in increasing numbers. Heavy labour will undoubtedly be very scarce throughout the region within the next two months.

#### Vancouver

The normal seasonal upswing in industrial production and employment now is well on its way. Demand in the logging industry this year will probably top any level reached for the past several years. Sawmills are operating normally and labour requirements call for key men. There is a marked shortage of hard rock miners with few applicants available. Construction work has accelerated, creating a sharp demand for skilled and unskilled men. Agricultural workers are scarce.

It is felt that University students willing to fill labouring jobs will alleviate the general shortage of unskilled labour.

While unplaced applicants did not decrease substantially during April it is not because of lack of job openings. The crux of the problem is to find suitable applicants for the existing vacancies.

Nearly twenty-five per cent of all male applicants are "white collar" workers for whom there is little demand. The demand for unskilled male help from manufacturing plants is very small. Thus hundreds of male job seekers remain unplaced while jobs in primary industry and construction go begging.

# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

## A Key to the Area Tables

The area tables present statistical data on the labour market in 38 selected areas. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in each area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

The areas are classified according to the number of unplaced applicants registered with the local National Employment Service office. The classification is based on a ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 wage and salary workers at work.

An "unplaced applicant" at any particular moment is a person who is registered at an office of the National Employment Service who has either not been placed in a job by the employment service or for whom the employment service has had no notification of his obtaining a job on his own. It is obvious, therefore, that the number of unplaced applicants are not indicative of the total volume of unemployment in any area. In the first place, not all workers who are seeking jobs will register with N.E.S. It is probable that most of those covered by unemployment insurance will do so in order to collect unemployment insurance benefits if their period of unemployment is sufficiently long. But many workers, do not come within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Act. Second, some workers who register with N.E.S. may be wanting merely to change jobs. At the time of registration, therefore, these workers would be already employed. Third, employment service regulations provide that when a worker registers for a job another contact need not necessarily be made with him by the employment service until 30 days have passed. If the worker obtains a job on his own during this period, the employment service may not be notified of this. In other words a worker may still be counted as an unplaced applicant despite the fact that he now has a job. Finally, a worker may register for work at more than one local employment office. When this occurs there is the possibility that the same person may be counted twice as an unplaced applicant.

These qualifications in the meaning of the term "unplaced applicant" should be clearly borne in mind by any person who makes use of term. They are due to the fact that the principal function of the National Employment Service is to match jobs to workers, not to collect statistics. But they do not render such statistics useless. At present, there is no statistical information available on the total volume of unemployment by area. This being the case, the number of unplaced workers registered with a local N.E.S. office is a very important fact to consider when evaluating labour market conditions in a particular area. It is in this spirit that figures on unplaced applicants are presented in the following tables.



In order to ascertain the relative level of unplaced applicants in various local office areas, this figure has been related to an estimate of the total number of wage and salary workers at work in each area. In other words, the number of unplaced applicants is compared with the size of the particular area as measured by the number of wage and salary workers at work.

In addition these ratios have been consolidated into four groups denoting four different general labour market situations:

Group I—Areas in which there are more than 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the Mid-Thirties.

Group II—Areas in which there are between 150 and 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,00 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group is characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III—Areas in which there are from 50 to 150 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV—Areas in which there are under 50 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Favourable, in the sense that it is comparable to conditions during the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be clearly understood that the above ratio is only a general method of classifying labour market conditions as they are pictured by the local N.E.S. office. The ratio attempts to do no more than that. It attempts to do just that because it is felt that labour market conditions in a particular local employment service office are an important fact in the overall employment situation.

The area tables present additional material relative to the current demand - supply picture. Definitions of some of the terms used are given below:

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities insofar as employers do not report vacancies to the employment service. "Jobs available during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but should indicate the trend of labour demand in comparison with figures for previous periods.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the employment service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer to N.E.S.

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Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Pointe-aux-Trembles, St. Paul  
l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney,  
Sydney Mines.

Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

AS AT MAY 1, 1947

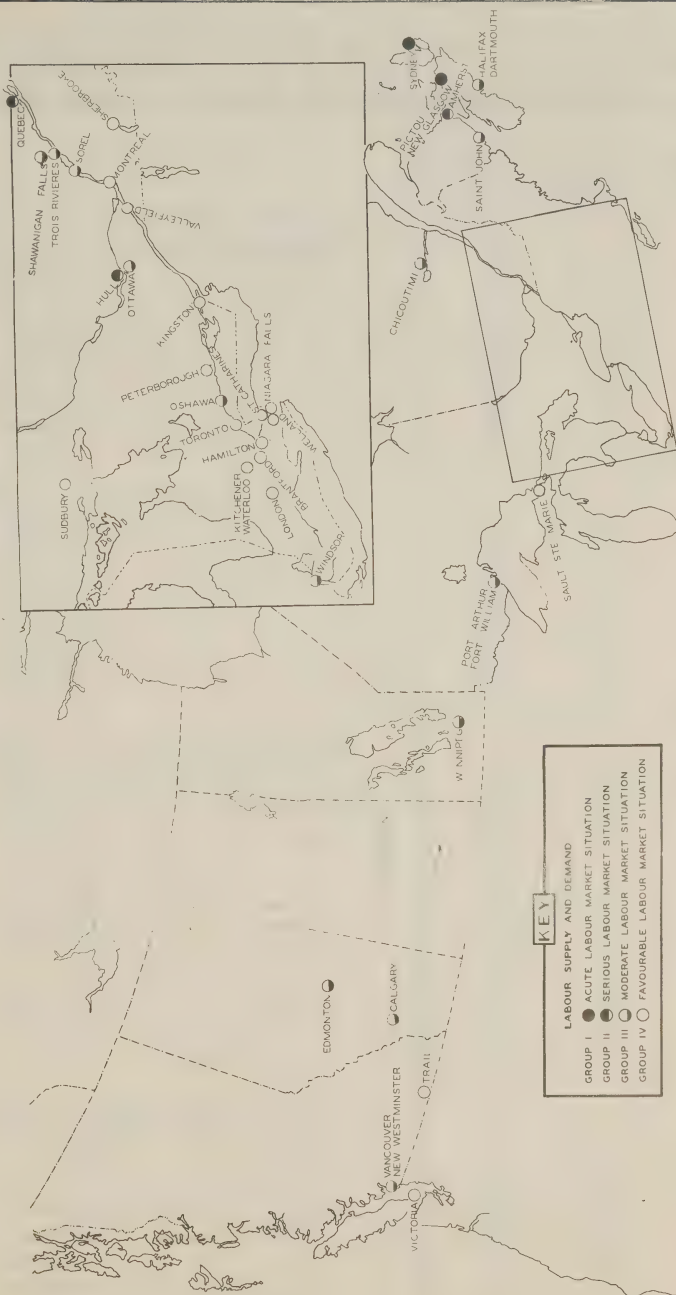






Table I—Index of Areas Analyzed in this Section

Note: The thirty-eight areas below are arranged according to the number of unplaced applicants in each as at May 1, in descending order. Comparable ratings are also given for two previous selected dates.

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		May 1, 1947	Apr. 3, 1947	May 2, 1946
	<u>Population of 100,000 and over:</u>			
65	Quebec.....	II	II	II
69	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
72	Windsor.....	III	III	II
72	Winnipeg.....	III	III	III
74	Vancouver.....	III	III	III
64	Montreal.....	IV	IV	III
67	Hamilton.....	IV	IV	III
70	Toronto.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 50,000 to 100,000:</u>			
63	Sydney.....	I	I	II
62	Halifax.....	III	III	III
67	Fort William - Port Arthur.....	III	III	II
72	Regina.....	III	III	III
73	Calgary.....	III	III	III
63	Saint John.....	III	III	III
73	Edmonton.....	III	III	III
68	London.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 25,000 to 50,000:</u>			
64	Bull.....	II	II	III
66	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
69	Oshawa.....	III	III	I
73	Saskatoon.....	IV	III	III
74	Victoria.....	IV	IV	III
68	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
70	Sudbury.....	IV	IV	III
70	St. Catharines.....	IV	IV	III
70	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
65	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
67	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
68	Kitchener - Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of under 25,000:</u>			
63	New Glasgow - Pictou.....	I	I	I
62	Amherst.....	II	II	I
66	Valleyfield.....	III	III	II
65	Shawinigan Falls.....	III	III	II
64	Chicoutimi.....	III	III	I
66	Sorel.....	IV	III	I
70	Welland.....	IV	III	II
74	Trail.....	IV	IV	III
69	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	III
70	Sault Ste. Marie.....	IV	IV	IV

Item	Canada			Amherst			Halifax		
	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	55	63	100(a)	247	198	381	93	97	53
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	85,119	72,720	76,884	3	4	6	1,272	1,054	1,283
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	124,262	129,539	-	22	40	-	1,390	1,615
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	196,982	206,423	-	26	46	-	2,444	2,898
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	56,154	57,078	-	14	23	-	646	421
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	84,655	78,637	-	77	54	-	530	1,001
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	92,257	85,119	83,924	7	3	13	1,156	1,272	1,703
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	182,478	194,766	263,532	575	546	967	4,283	3,733	1,973
% female.....	19.5	19.5	18.2	13.2	17.2	23.3	16.1	13.0	14.0
% veterans.....	31.7	31.4	31.5	50.3	46.2	37.7	40.0	44.3	41.7
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	23.6	24.0	23.2	41.9	38.8	31.4	27.4	29.9	12.5
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	10.4	11.4	-	5.9	8.4	-	14.3	14.9	-
% 20 - 44 "	60.6	60.7	-	74.8	70.3	-	66.3	66.3	-
% 45 - 64 "	21.0	20.2	-	15.7	16.7	-	14.9	14.0	-
% over 65 "	8.0	7.7	-	3.6	4.6	-	4.5	4.8	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	125,510	151,501	-	198	298	-	2,475	1,905
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	300,276	415,033	-	744	1,265	-	6,208	3,878
% referred.....	-	28.5	21.6	-	4.2	3.0	-	16.4	23.9
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	157,757	182,478	266,361	715	575	1,105	4,109	4,283	2,476
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	2,880	2,874	2,664	-	2,900	2,900	-	44,200	46,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings	-	35.62	32.23	-	-	-	-	32.31	29.54

Note:—Figures for Canada re wage and salary workers are in thousands.

(x) Figures subject to revision. (a) The February, 1946 rating was incorrectly printed in the March issue.

The rating for Canada, February, 1946, should have read 99.

Item	New Glasgow & Pictou			Sydney			Saint John		
	Apr.(x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr.(x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr.(x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....									
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	786	838	381	(a) 670	676	241	55	71	66
2. Vacs., notified during month.....	88	28	100	151	187	390	562	615	814
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	386	682	-	347	709	-	1,094	981
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	414	782	-	534	1,099	-	1,709	1,709
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	282	641	-	329	555	-	721	569
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	97	164	58	-	33	127	-	320	808
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	2,933	2,810	2,616	5,946	5,788	3,901	2,073	2,251	1,673
% female.....	9.4	8.8	10.0	10.6	10.6	12.3	8.2	9.1	9.7
% veterans.....	42.1	43.5	28.1	45.5	46.8	45.3	47.8	50.1	55.5
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	37.5	40.5	21.4	42.0	41.6	36.1	38.4	43.9	37.7
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	6.4	7.3	-	11.3	13.2	-	16.2	14.3	-
% 20 - 44 ".....	70.9	69.5	-	72.4	71.1	-	62.3	65.6	-
% 45 - 64 ".....	18.5	18.3	-	11.9	11.3	-	14.8	13.7	-
% over 65 ".....	4.2	4.9	-	4.4	4.4	-	6.7	6.4	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	890	1,073	-	1,418	1,605	-	1,332	1,504
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	3,700	3,689	-	7,206	5,506	-	3,583	3,177
% referred.....	-	15.4	19.0	-	6.6	12.5	-	27.5	29.5
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	2,751	2,933	2,781	5,897	5,946	4,620	1,581	2,073	1,842
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	3,500	7,300	-	8,800	19,200	-	29,000	27,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31.04	29.38

x Figures subject to revision.

(a) A drop in employment of 1,200 in New Glasgow - Pictou, and 10,000 in Sydney because of the coal mining strike, is the cause of the sudden jump in the rating. The striking miners are not counted as unemployed.



Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	59	63	537	158	172	137	31	35	89
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	426	2,043	1,339	273	162	448	14,702	14,067	13,497
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,274	1,824	-	319	395	-	12,494	10,549
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	3,317	3,163	-	481	843	-	26,561	24,046
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	131	246	-	86	66	-	4,857	2,397
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	575	671	-	282	482	-	14,702	14,435
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	564	426	1,198	268	273	536	13,043	14,702	15,337
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	550	546	2,930	1,889	1,783	1,137	17,135	18,966	39,994
% female.....	22.7	26.2	12.1	29.5	28.5	10.3	11.8	11.7	14.9
% veterans.....	6.2	7.1	6.1	25.7	27.1	36.2	22.8	19.5	19.1
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	4.9	4.9	4.2	25.4	24.1	30.1	13.3	11.9	12.2
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	13.9	14.7	-	13.8	14.5	-	7.6	8.0	-
% 20 - 44 "	60.8	61.3	-	64.9	64.5	-	53.9	55.4	-
% 45 - 64 "	19.5	17.2	-	16.0	15.8	-	27.6	26.6	-
% over 65 "	5.8	6.8	-	5.3	5.2	-	10.9	10.0	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	510	1,433	-	598	669	-	13,829	19,888
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	1,056	4,363	-	2,381	1,806	-	32,795	59,882
% referred.....	-	19.6	7.5	-	5.3	5.8	-	27.5	12.6
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	514	550	2,953	1,741	1,889	1,506	14,892	17,135	39,801
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month...	-	8,700	5,500	-	11,000	11,000	-	486,600	447,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34.34	32.10

(x) Figures subject to revision.

Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed.....)	171	185	257	76	88	195	18	23	43
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	1,157	1,093	1,025	94	81	22	207	133	324
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,558	1,697	-	490	140	-	519	644
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	2,651	2,722	-	571	162	-	652	968
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	799	777	-	414	120	-	310	386
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	1,157	2,099	-	303	367	-	543	694
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	1,027	1,574	868	65	94	22	256	207	307
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	11,202	11,224	16,450	963	1,032	2,071	456	532	750
% female.....	27.3	28.5	32.2	32.2	31.6	13.3	14.0	17.9	8.8
% veterans.....	17.3	16.8	11.6	3.9	5.1	2.3	21.9	16.0	33.9
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	14.4	14.4	8.9	3.4	4.1	2.3	16.0	11.3	23.7
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	15.0	14.7	-	15.6	12.5	-	14.3	20.9	-
% 20 - 44 "	67.8	67.8	-	58.7	61.8	-	55.7	56.4	-
% 45 - 64 "	13.0	13.2	-	14.9	11.7	-	21.4	16.5	-
% over 65 "	4.2	4.3	-	10.8	14.0	-	8.6	6.2	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	3,901	4,421	-	671	406	-	588	796
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	15,125	20,871	-	1,703	2,477	-	1,120	1,546
% referred.....	-	10.9	7.9	-	27.8	5.0	-	42.0	36.8
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	10,324	11,202	16,108	840	963	2,023	365	456	816
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	60,500	62,600	-	11,000	10,400	-	20,100	19,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	29.86	27.54	-	-	-	-	29.84	26.86

(x) Figures subject to revision.

Item	Sorel			Three Rivers			Valleyfield		
	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	46	71	415	111	111	107	94	109	210
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	131	73	15	145	123	170	480	304	166
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	478	349	-	450	681	-	876	401
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	551	364	-	573	851	-	1,180	567
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	296	296	-	242	245	-	397	286
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	293	-	-	558	558	-	79	143
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	227	131	58	220	145	201	318	480	228
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	628	846	2,553	3,735	3,855	3,374	667	808	1,155
% female.....	18.3	14.9	8.2	14.6	16.7	23.9	16.2	16.7	7.2
% veterans.....	8.4	7.3	2.5	11.8	11.8	8.5	14.4	8.8	10.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	7.8	5.8	2.0	10.0	10.4	6.1	10.5	7.3	7.0
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	13.6	14.2	-	19.2	19.7	-	12.4	12.5	-
% 20 - 44 ".....	63.5	59.8	-	62.8	63.2	-	59.4	63.7	-
% 45 - 64 ".....	17.3	20.9	-	13.0	12.3	-	20.3	16.7	-
% over 65 ".....	5.6	5.1	-	5.0	4.8	-	7.9	7.1	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	605	552	-	858	1,380	-	496	588
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	1,451	3,105	-	4,713	4,754	-	1,304	1,743
% referred.....	-	24.4	9.5	-	11.2	9.5	-	35.4	21.1
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	409	628	2,574	3,735	3,735	3,373	571	667	1,195
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	8,800	6,200	-	33,500	31,500	-	6,100	5,700
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	33.42	30.04	-	-	-

Figures subject to revision



Item	Brantford				Ft. William & Pt. Arthur				Hamilton		
	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946		Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946		Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	15	15	49		75	83	219		30	40	80
<b>Jobs:</b>											
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	719	440	549		2,328	1,965	2,076		2,608	1,616	1,701
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	970	1,051		-	2,614	2,754		-	3,852	4,124
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	1,410	1,600		-	4,579	4,830		-	5,468	5,825
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	326	460		-	854	1,496		-	1,930	1,927
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	595	654		-	1,733	1,904		-	1,618	1,492
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	797	719	582		2,714	2,328	1,777		3,275	2,608	2,341
<b>Workers:</b>											
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	259	537	691		1,801	2,077	4,403		3,418	3,882	6,249
% female.....	25.1	31.5	40.8		29.9	27.6	34.3		18.1	22.8	21.3
% veterans.....	32.8	22.7	20.8		22.5	22.3	22.4		33.3	30.7	32.1
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	13.5	17.9	8.4		10.7	12.6	14.6		17.2	18.7	21.0
Age distribution:											
% under 20 years.....	6.7	9.5	-		8.9	10.4	-		7.8	8.5	-
% 20 - 44 ".....	41.6	46.9	-		61.3	59.6	-		54.9	54.8	-
% 45 - 64 ".....	23.4	27.0	-		20.9	20.4	-		24.6	24.8	-
% over 65 ".....	28.3	16.6	-		8.9	9.6	-		12.7	11.9	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	427	961		-	1,459	2,765		-	3,954	4,208
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	964	1,652		-	3,536	7,168		-	7,836	10,457
% referred.....	-	50.0	44.4		-	28.1	23.0		-	51.1	38.2
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	257	259	792		1,627	1,801	4,736		2,499	3,418	6,458
<b>Employment:</b>											
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	17,100	16,200		-	21,800	21,600		-	84,400	80,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings. " " "	-	-	-		-	38.10	34.46		-	37.21	32.54

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Kingston			Kitchener-Waterloo			London		
	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	42	43	41	4	4	5	22	28	45
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	359	191	243	1,279	1,069	1,150	1,639	1,181	1,016
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	827	798	-	1,472	1,864	-	2,462	2,679
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	1,018	1,041	-	2,541	3,014	-	3,643	3,695
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	450	522	-	368	465	-	1,046	1,132
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	194	296	-	771	769	-	709	935
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	258	359	274	1,422	1,279	1,464	2,149	1,639	1,425
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	789	724	670	148	143	176	955	1,244	1,491
% female.....	21.7	31.5	24.5	12.2	13.3	13.6	21.0	12.1	15.2
% veterans.....	39.2	27.8	32.2	33.1	27.3	43.2	35.6	36.6	35.9
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	33.6	25.1	26.0	7.4	20.3	5.1	17.9	19.9	22.3
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	17.3	25.0	-	15.0	18.9	-	11.4	14.1	-
% 20 - 44 "	56.2	52.1	-	48.2	51.7	-	45.5	46.9	-
% 45 - 64 "	17.9	15.5	-	20.5	14.7	-	25.5	25.2	-
% over 65 "	8.6	7.4	-	16.3	14.7	-	17.6	13.8	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	885	889	-	501	607	-	1,555	1,784
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	1,609	1,559	-	644	783	-	2,799	3,275
% referred.....	-	51.3	52.0	-	92.1	91.8	-	70.8	61.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	786	789	732	164	148	183	761	955	1,341
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month....	-	18,500	17,700	-	38,200	35,500	-	34,400	29,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	34.22	30.12	-	33.14	30.45

(x) Figures subject to revision.

Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	Apr. 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed).....	25	33	60	87	101	547	89	88	71
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	190	197	278	378	238	305	1,105	967	1,308
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	435	617	-	548	516	-	1,894	2,751
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	632	895	-	786	821	-	2,861	4,059
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	264	245	-	279	194	-	883	888
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	271	342	-	156	257	-	1,214	1,980
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	349	190	281	598	378	362	1,355	1,105	1,623
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	519	652	851	1,913	1,912	6,570	5,259	4,899	3,719
% female.....	24.3	25.5	24.3	41.0	41.0	31.2	47.1	46.7	17.1
% veterans.....	23.9	22.5	31.6	20.4	24.9	9.1	24.1	24.1	39.6
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	12.1	15.0	24.6	12.5	16.7	7.2	17.5	16.9	26.3
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	14.6	17.2	-	15.0	16.1	-	7.9	9.9	-
% 20 - 44 ".....	45.4	48.6	-	64.1	63.6	-	62.3	60.9	-
% 45 - 64 ".....	18.8	20.4	-	16.4	15.5	-	23.3	22.4	-
% over 65 ".....	21.2	13.8	-	4.5	4.8	-	6.5	6.8	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	404	549	-	1,516	1,195	-	3,122	3,049
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	1,056	1,400	-	3,428	7,765	-	8,021	6,768
% referred.....	-	42.1	29.9	-	17.8	5.4	-	20.8	31.6
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	400	519	906	1,648	1,913	6,346	5,351	5,259	4,091
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	-	15,900	15,000	-	18,900	11,600	-	59,800	57,400
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31.15	28.30

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Peterborough			St. Catharines			Sault Ste. Marie		
	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed) .....	22	32	44	25	38	126	25	30	49
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	319	257	344	437	262	226	670	613	613
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	586	624	-	1,186	1,051	-	766	850
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	843	968	-	1,448	1,277	-	1,379	1,463
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	463	442	-	571	587	-	291	298
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	240	409	-	403	424	-	116	137
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	344	319	371	763	437	491	948	670	846
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	750	804	852	1,137	1,543	3,567	485	545	696
% female.....	3.5	4.5	11.2	39.8	35.9	30.5	59.4	60.2	56.5
% veterans.....	39.5	45.3	48.9	24.9	23.1	17.4	7.8	7.5	7.5
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	33.2	37.6	38.4	14.8	17.1	12.6	7.8	7.5	7.5
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	11.4	12.4	-	11.5	11.7	-	19.4	19.8	-
% 20 - 44 " .....	57.6	58.1	-	60.0	62.5	-	62.5	58.9	-
% 45 - 64 " .....	21.0	20.8	-	20.1	19.0	-	9.9	13.0	-
% over 65 " .....	10.0	8.7	-	8.4	6.8	-	8.2	8.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	670	673	-	874	1,042	-	416	448
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	1,474	1,525	-	2,417	4,609	-	961	1,144
% referred.....	-	47.5	45.7	-	43.4	18.2	-	36.3	19.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	526	750	954	753	1,137	3,235	404	485	737
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	-	23,800	21,500	-	29,700	25,600	-	16,000	15,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	75	99	176	73	85	113	59	81	88
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	341	218	370	3,111	2,261	2,192	735	446	539
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,320	1,553	-	5,473	5,700	-	1,590	2,555
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	1,538	1,923	-	7,734	7,892	-	2,036	3,094
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	871	997	-	1,352	3,506	-	1,057	1,122
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	1,154	1,036	-	2,371	3,342	-	442	729
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	554	341	599	2,940	3,111	2,372	834	735	1,529
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	5,137	5,602	17,165	11,661	12,258	13,928	2,510	2,713	2,393
% female.....	36.5	31.6	13.7	20.9	23.7	21.6	16.7	17.7	20.1
% veterans.....	27.7	29.1	14.3	38.6	37.3	38.9	47.2	43.6	47.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	23.7	26.8	12.5	24.5	26.1	30.3	43.3	40.3	43.1
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	11.4	12.4	-	7.6	9.9	-	9.8	13.7	-
% 20 - 44 ".....	65.7	64.9	-	64.3	64.1	-	65.2	62.5	-
% 45 - 64 ".....	18.5	18.9	-	20.1	18.5	-	19.3	18.9	-
% over 65 ".....	4.4	3.8	-	8.0	7.5	-	5.7	4.9	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	2,387	3,324	-	7,302	8,414	-	1,978	2,343
3. Total workers available during month.....	-	7,989	20,489	-	19,560	22,342	-	4,691	4,736
% referred.....	-	21.3	7.5	-	25.9	24.5	-	40.4	47.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	3,922	5,137	8,315	9,957	11,661	14,389	1,821	2,510	2,471
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month...	-	52,000	47,200	-	137,300	127,800	-	30,900	28,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	43.23	36.48	-	32.82	30.53	-	31.17	28.81

(x) Figures subject to revision.



Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	Apr. 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946	Apr. (x) 1947	Mar. 1947	Mar. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	47	55	63	58	82	105	53	66	88
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	861	390	609	845	516	754	755	670	1,138
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	=	1,139	1,249	=	2,392	2,415	=	2,494	3,080
3. Total jobs available during month.....	=	1,529	1,858	=	2,908	3,169	=	3,164	4,218
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	=	458	483	=	1,550	1,418	=	1,706	1,787
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	=	453	724	=	696	1,199	=	1,002	1,408
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	902	861	965	1,144	845	947	1,360	755	1,265
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	2,193	2,306	2,128	3,881	4,051	4,848	4,463	4,497	5,198
% female.....	25.4	26.0	22.6	20.1	21.0	16.3	15.1	18.7	17.7
% veterans.....	36.5	38.1	40.2	44.0	43.6	45.3	43.0	43.0	45.9
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	25.4	31.2	28.5	31.4	35.2	33.6	27.3	30.2	24.1
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	11.9	13.6	-	6.0	9.4	-	9.6	9.7	-
% 20 - 44 ".....	60.3	61.8	-	58.8	57.7	-	60.4	62.2	-
% 45 - 64 ".....	21.2	19.2	-	24.9	23.8	-	23.1	21.5	-
% over 65 ".....	6.6	5.4	-	10.3	9.1	-	6.9	6.6	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,228	1,686	-	2,890	2,914	-	3,672	4,118
3. Total workers available during month....	-	3,534	3,814	-	6,941	7,762	-	8,169	9,316
% referred.....	-	26.7	29.1	-	34.6	28.5	-	32.0	28.2
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	1,880	2,193	2,392	2,779	3,881	4,652	3,567	4,463	5,601
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	40,200	38,000	-	47,600	44,300	-	67,600	63,400
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	31.42	28.60	-	33.99	32.12	-	32.29	30.39

X Figures subject to revision.









A N A D I A N

# LABOUR MARKET

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR,  
RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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FEATURE ARTICLE.... Government  
Publications

Employment Opportunities  
in the  
Professions

Volume 3

Number 6





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## PART THREE

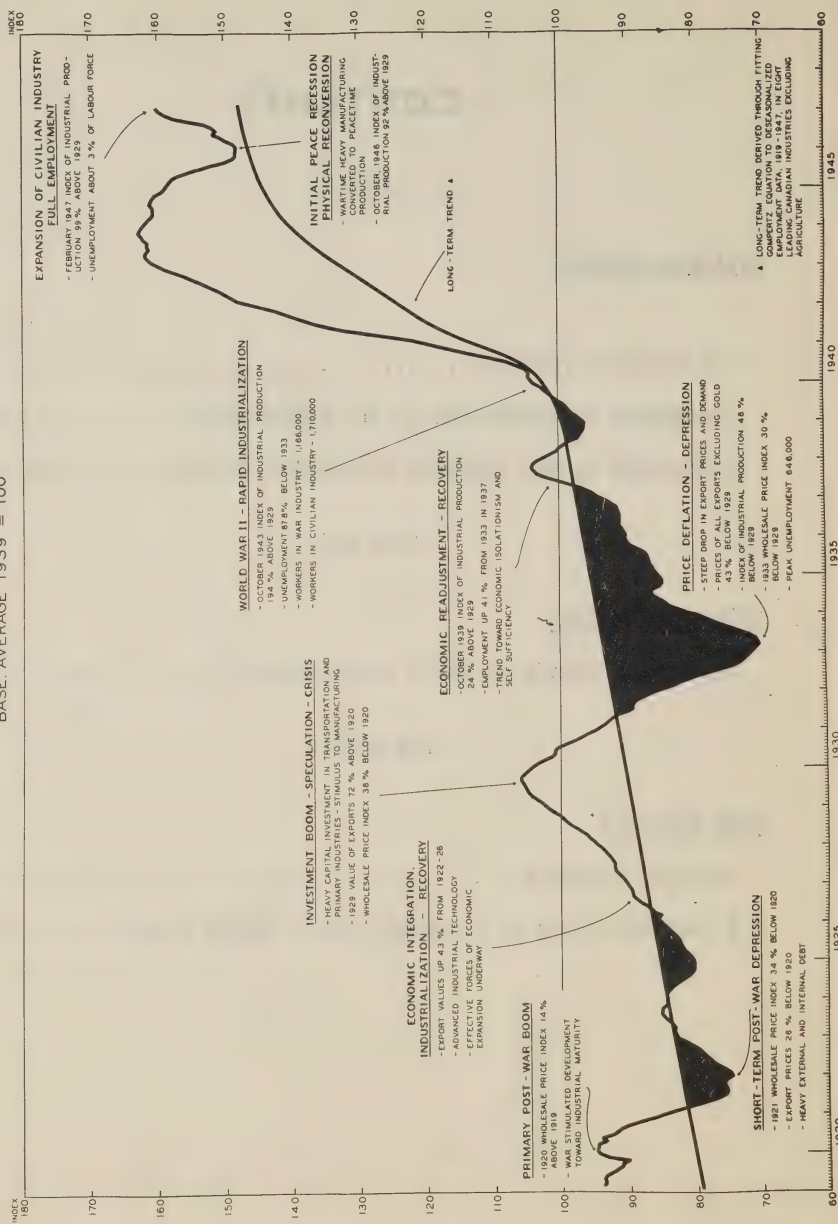
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# GROWTH OF INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

## SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

BASE AVERAGE 1939 = 100



## THE MANPOWER PICTURE

For many months, the immense amount of building which has been undertaken by industry, residential builders, and commercial interests has formed one of the bases of the current high level of employment and income in Canada. There are various indications, however, that construction activity in 1947 is beginning to taper off, if not decline. As shown in Table I, for instance, the value of construction contracts awarded during the first 5 months of 1947 is 8 per cent less than that for the same period of 1946. This decline is particularly noticeable with respect to new construction in the residential and industrial fields.

Table I—Construction Contracts Awarded  
(Millions of Dollars)

Source: MacLean's Engineering and Contract Record

	5 Months			May		
	1947	1946	% Change	1947	1946	% Change
Factories.....	40.9	72.1	-43	7.9	18.4	-57
Housing.....	56.6	88.9	-36	22.0	32.2	-32
Commercial & Institutional...	98.1	78.9	+24	23.7	22.3	+6
Engineering.....	59.9	36.3	+65	10.5	9.4	+12
Total.....	253.6	276.2	-8	64.2	84.2	-22

The purpose of this article, therefore, is to examine the construction industry in some detail from the point of view of its relationship to the general level of employment and income in the country.

With the end of the war, construction activity boomed. Industrialists planned factory reconversion and expansion on a large scale, a great many people wanted homes, many merchants undertook the erection of new stores, and there was a great backlog of deferred building such as churches, hospitals, and schools, not to mention the amount of work necessary in highway and other public construction.

During 1946, however, building progress was limited by shortages of building materials and of skilled tradesmen. But by 1947, the output of building materials was much greater, many skilled workers



had been trained under schemes administered by the Canadian Vocational Training Branch of the Department of Labour, arrangements had been made to loosen various union apprenticeship regulations insofar as veterans were concerned, and contractors were beginning to exchange workers as was the pre-war practice. With these improvements it had been expected that a sharp stepping-up of building activity was in the offing for 1947.

There are, then, two problems. First, the tracing of the relationship between employment in the construction industry and the general level of employment; and second, the evaluation of the significance of the current downward trends in the amount of new construction being undertaken.

### The Construction Industry & the Business Cycle

The close connection between the general level of employment and employment in the construction industry is understandable in view of the functional relationship between this industry and the general economy. Industries supplying steel, lumber, paint, bricks, cement, glass, hardware and furniture, prosper with construction activity and slump when it is at a standstill. The construction industry claims that, for every dollar spent in construction, 82 cents finds its way into the pay envelopes of workers employed either directly on the job or indirectly in the factories manufacturing construction materials and in the related transportation companies.

Thus, quite apart from direct employment in construction (on-site employment), the indirect or off-site employment which construction activity creates is substantial. It is estimated that the ratio of on-site to off-site employment is at least 1 to 1.35.<sup>(1)</sup> The total employment dependent upon construction activity, therefore, is more than double the number of workers in the construction industry itself.

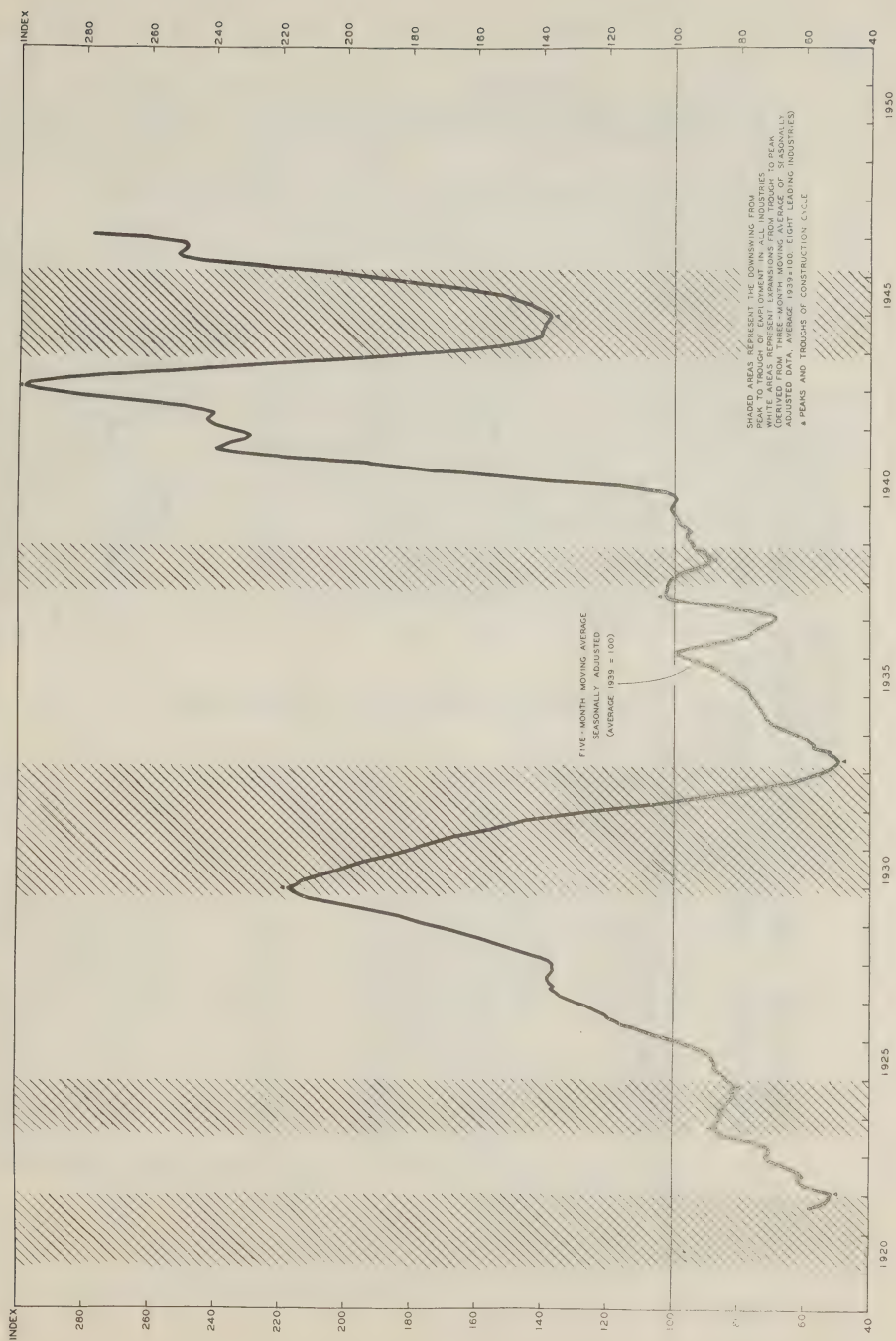
On the basis of employment, an initial decline in the number of workers in construction usually heralds a decline in the general level of employment. This can be seen in the accompanying chart which shows the trend of employment in the construction industry adjusted for seasonal variations in relation to the trend of employment in all industries. In every case a major drop in the general level of employment has been preceded by a decline in construction employment.

It is important to add, however, that the effect on general employment of a decline in construction employment varies according to the specific type of construction. A decline in industrial construction employment affects the general level of employment to a much greater extent than would a similar decline in the number of workers engaged in each of the other building fields. This is true since industrial construction provides greater off-site employment,

---

<sup>(1)</sup> See "The Importance of the Construction Industry in Relation to the Canadian Economy", O.J. Firestone, 1942, for a more detailed discussion of this relationship.

# EMPLOYMENT CYCLES IN CONSTRUCTION AS COMPARED WITH CYCLES IN ALL INDUSTRIES

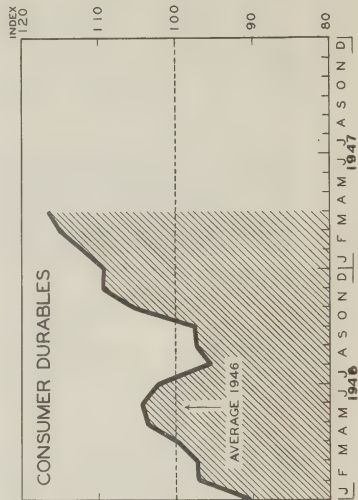
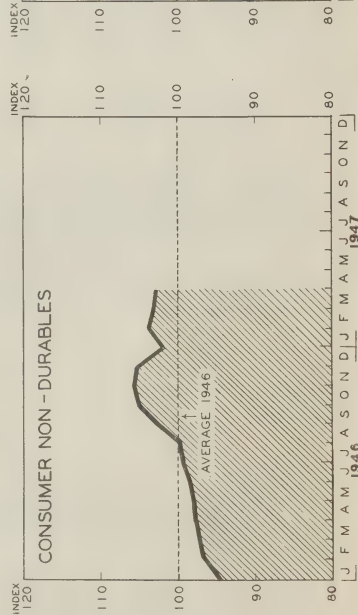
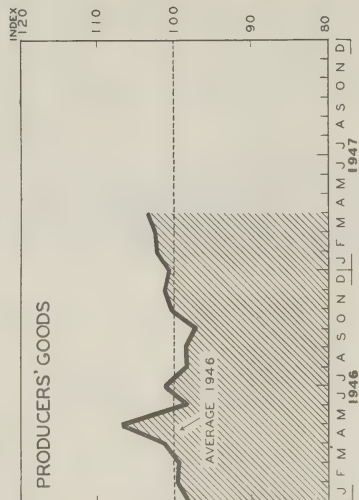
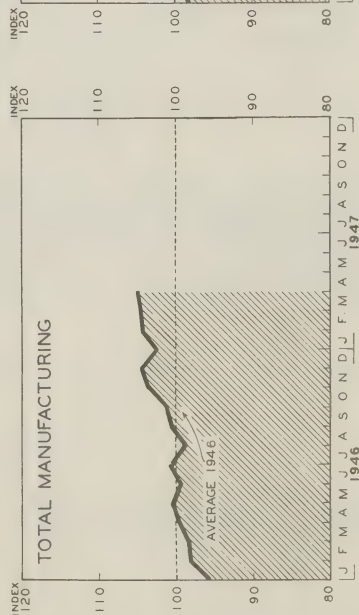


# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

## MAJOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

(INDUSTRIES GROUPED ACCORDING TO GENERAL USE OF PRODUCTS)

1946 — 1947





especially in heavy industries, and also because once a new factory is completed it will in turn provide a number of jobs. It is industrial construction activity, therefore, which affects the business cycle to the greatest extent.

The business cycles of some industries are as different as their own physical characteristics. According to the investigations of Alvin Hansen, the three most significant cycles are the short  $3\frac{1}{2}$  year cycle of heavy industry (i.e., steel ingot production), the long component cycle of heavy industry, averaging 6 years (i.e., the international trade cycle), and the long cycle of construction, which lasts from 16 to 19 years.

Short depressions may be expected when the long component cycle of heavy industry and the longer cycle of the construction industry are comparatively neutral or just beginning to rise, in other words, when they do not dominate the business situation in either direction. Long depressions occur when the long component cycle and the longer construction cycle are depressed. Hansen points out that in the United States a lengthy depression has almost always occurred in business whenever the long cycle of construction has been in its bottom phase. The last low point of the construction cycle in both Canada and the United States occurred in 1933. Making allowance, therefore, for the war-deferred backlog of building, the next downswing should not be due until the late 1950's, if then.

#### How Important is the Current Trend?

In view of the tremendous backlog of building demand, the significance of the current downward trend in construction will depend chiefly upon the nature of price readjustment. If the market can be sustained so that prices can be scaled down gradually, allowing time to smooth out rigidities in the cost structure, the downswing will probably not gain enough momentum to substantially affect the course of general business. The danger would arise, if the market for new construction dropped abruptly, leaving the industry with the problem of cutting prices immediately in the face of rigid costs.

We shall now examine the market for new construction, as measured by contracts awarded, taking into account the trend of material and labour costs.

The downward movement in the volume of new work occurred in April, for the first time in two years. This contra-seasonal decline continued in May, indicating a growing buyers' resistance to building costs, 75 to 90 per cent above the pre-war level. It also suggests some recession in business confidence.

Table II shows the advance in the building materials price index since 1945. Since the output of building materials is running at 10 to 30 per cent above 1946 production, however, and since contracts awarded are declining, a further price rise will be discouraged - in fact the trend might even be reversed.

Table II—Wholesale Price Index - Building Materials  
(1926 = 100)

(Source: Prices Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Date	Building Materials	Producers Goods	General Prices
1929.....	99.0	96.1	95.6
1933.....	78.3	63.1	67.1
1939.....	89.7	70.4	75.4
1945.....	127.3	100.7	103.6
1946.....	134.8	105.7	108.7
April, 1946.....	135.2	105.1	108.4
March, 1947.....	151.5	121.2	120.4
April, 1947.....	152.4	123.6	122.9

A comparison of wage rates for 3 selected trades as presented by the MacLeans Building Reporter for 4 major cities is shown in Table III. The scarcity of trowel tradesmen is reflected in the general wage boost for bricklayers. The recent wage drive at various regional points—Toronto, Kingston, London, Saskatoon, Saint John—further increased wages, particularly for carpenters.

Table III—Wage Rates for Selected Trades in Four Major Cities

(Sources: MacLean's Engineering and Contract Record; D.B.S.)

	May, 1946	October, 1946	May, 1947
	\$	\$	\$
<u>Montreal</u>			
Bricklayers.....	1.06	1.17	1.40
Carpenters.....	.96	1.06	1.06
Plumbers.....	1.01	1.01	1.11
<u>Toronto</u>			
Bricklayers.....	1.35	1.35	1.66
Carpenters.....	1.20	1.20	1.41
Plumbers.....	1.21	1.30	1.54
<u>Winnipeg</u>			
Bricklayers.....	1.25	1.30	1.54
Carpenters.....	1.05	1.15	1.15
Plumbers.....	1.15	1.25	1.25
<u>Vancouver</u>			
Bricklayers.....	1.29	1.20	1.41
Carpenters.....	1.12	1.25	1.25
Plumbers.....	1.19	1.35	1.35
Cost-of-Living Index, (1935-39 = 100).....	122.0	126.8	130.6 #

# Preliminary.

Rising wage rates have not been accompanied by any increase in efficiency, employers claim. This is, of course, partly attributable to the fact that many tradesmen have not had much experience. The inefficient working habits developed during the war are also a contributing factor.

Still another cause is the refusal of many contractors to build without a "cost plus" contract, or one with an "escalator" clause. These types of contracts lead to inefficiency with the result that the job tends to stretch out longer than absolutely necessary. In addition, breaks in supply lines have hindered the smooth progress of many projects so that tradesmen could not be used to fullest advantage.

Technological improvements can reduce the use of unskilled labour considerably, by utilizing huge digging and other machines. But such changes have had less effect on skilled tradesmen since their individual skill has not been replaced to any appreciable extent by machinery. The development of prefabricated housing and building units could replace much of the skilled labour and transfer much of the work from on-site to off-site factory employment. But this type of building on a large scale would imply fundamental re-organization of the methods of production in the construction industry.

#### Different Reactions in Each Branch of Construction

If construction costs continue to remain at their present level, the decline in construction activity is likely to continue. Although all fields of construction are being hard-hit by rising costs, other factors will influence each one in a different way and the trends of industrial, residential, commercial and institutional, and engineering construction will not necessarily be alike.

It is generally true that the volume of industrial construction is determined not so much by construction costs themselves as by the expectations of business men with respect to the future level of business. During 1946, a great deal of industrial construction was initiated. In addition, in the latter part of 1946, business men predicted that they would undertake an even greater volume of plant investment during 1947. Since that time, however, not only have construction costs risen considerably, but also a number of uncertainties have appeared on the business horizon. These two factors have tended to bring about a decline in industrial construction activity, while there has been a 43 per cent drop in new business over the first five months of 1947 as compared to the same period of 1946.

Residential construction does not figure prominently among the projects cancelled at the present time. Late last year it did, but now most of the prospective housebuilding is planned with full realization of the cost situation, and thus tends to be in either the very necessary, or the luxury class. Work already started is being completed more rapidly with the improvement in building supplies. The number of municipal dwelling units completed during the first three months of 1947 are at the same level, or less, than during the same period of 1946, despite the improvement in the material supply situation.

The cost factor looms large in residential building since small contractors are active in this field. Methods and organization,



therefore, tend to be even less efficient than for the industry in general. Prefabrication of housing and housing units, with its mass production economies, has proved impossible in Canada because of the myriad and conflicting building codes set up by municipal authorities throughout the country. The standard building code designed by the National Research Council, however, offers a lead toward the standardization of building methods which increase efficiency in the industry and might enable the greater use of pre-fabricated units.

If price readjustment is a lengthy process, much of the deferred demand for housing may become ineffective even when prices have declined. The money accumulated for houses during the past few years of prosperity will have been spent on other goods, and many people will have become accustomed to their current living conditions.

Commercial and institutional construction is still advancing. The cost factor, though important, does not affect this field as directly as in residential housing. Much building of this type is financed by public authorities or public organizations—hospitals, schools, auditoriums, churches, etc.—where there is no profit motive. Other buildings in this category—restaurants, theatres, stores, etc.—are a smaller type of investment and thus the risk is not so great.

Engineering construction continues to expand. Most of this, again, is public investment, necessary as a result of war deferment and cost is not the main object. This type of construction does not exert great pressure on prices, since much of the material used do not compete with building construction—gravel, asphalt, etc. It also does not compete for skilled tradesmen to any extent, using instead much common labour and machinery.

It seems, therefore, that commercial, institutional, and engineering construction may prove to be a bulwark against a too rapid and steep price decline. Most of this type of construction would be public investment, and, therefore, would be fulfilling the traditional role of public investment, which is to flatten out the peaks and valleys of the business cycle by timing its expenditures so as to contribute to employment as needed, supplement private expenditures by compensating for their fluctuations. Construction is one of the most visible economic activities, and thus construction expenditures definitely assist in restoring the business confidence so necessary to economic well-being, apart from the employment that is provided and stimulated.

The timing factor, is, of course, most important. O.J. Firestone emphasized that, "A construction program will create a greater volume of secondary employment if undertaken during the downswing of a business cycle, than at the turning point from depression to prosperity, or during the period of recovery." Close co-operation between dominion, provincial, and municipal authorities is naturally imperative. In the inter-war years, the public investment expenditures of provincial and municipal governments were much greater than those of the dominion government.

Table IV—Gross Revenue in Construction Industry  
(In Millions of Dollars)

(Source: O.J. Firestone - Preliminary Report I on the Construction Industry and Post-war Ec. Policy)

	Construction Work by Private Contractors Only	Construction Work by Public Authorities Only	Construction Work by Both Private and Public Authorities
	\$	\$	\$
1929.....	502	89	591
1933.....	97	111	208
1934.....	99	78	177
1938.....	281	72	353
1939.....	287	86	373
1944.....	381	69	450
1945.....	459	85	544

1944 & 1945 - based on Construction Census

All these indications point to a "breathing spell" for the construction industry, wherein prices and wage rates will become stabilized and the great amount of unfinished work can be completed. If commercial, institutional, and engineering construction remain at a high enough level to sustain the industry and its components, rising costs will taper off gradually as the pressure of demand eases and prices can return to a safe level and a broader market. This phase is the normal reaction to conditions which have pyramided costs to the point where the market is out-priced. Potential business for the industry is tremendous, and after readjustment, and when the present commitments are fulfilled, a high volume of work should be maintained.

The current high level of public investment in commercial, institutional, and engineering construction could be amplified in the event of price readjustment difficulties, to flatten the downswing and until the real underlying demand for other construction could again become effective.

The sustaining factor of a stabilized construction industry would be an important steadying influence in general business developments. An efficiently-operating construction industry would play a major part in enabling the predicted decline in general prices to result in a balanced economy operating at high efficiency, rather than in over-expanded inventories and a collapse such as the post-World War I crash of 1921.

# ECONOMIC INDICATORS OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

## Employment

April employment was 30,000 above the wartime level and the seasonal upswing was pushing it still higher. In April 1943 and 1944, manpower resources were strained to the limit and the normal seasonal rise occurring in May and June was slight on this account. This year, however, marked gains are indicated for May and June since the labour force has grown by some 400,000 since demobilization.

At May 1, the index advanced to 179.7. Initial activity in construction, agriculture and mining was steadily increasing, although delayed in many areas by the unseasonable cold weather. By June, orders from transportation, summer logging and services were swelling the general labour demand. Shortage of labour rather than of jobs is the problem ahead.

## Unplaced Applicants

At June 19, unplaced applicants currently seeking jobs through N.E.S were 17,000 below the lowest level reached during 1946. This occurred at the start of full seasonal activity. Unplaced applicants totalled 117,000 at June 19.

## Earnings

Weekly wages increased from March 1 to April 1, in spite of a slight decline in weekly hours. However, this advance was offset by a further rise in the cost-of-living which meant that "real" wages declined. <sup>(1)</sup>

At May 1, the index of aggregate payrolls dropped to 163.7, although per capita weekly earnings rose to \$35.91 as a result of wage increases and a shift to highly-paid construction, etc.

## Strikes and Lockouts

In May, there were 43 strikes in existence, involving 34,000 workers and causing a time loss of 365,000 man working days. The coal strike alone accounted for 14,000 workers. Strikes developed in the construction industry at scattered points and disputes remained unsettled in textiles; metalworking also became troubled.

The coal strike ended early in June. By the third week, most of the construction disputes had also been settled. Some textile workers returned to work. Several strikes in service establishments ended. There were only 12 strikes left in existence at June 21—textile workers, metal factory workers, electrical apparatus and furniture workers were among those still on strike.

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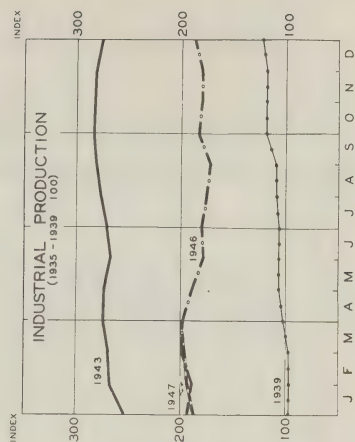
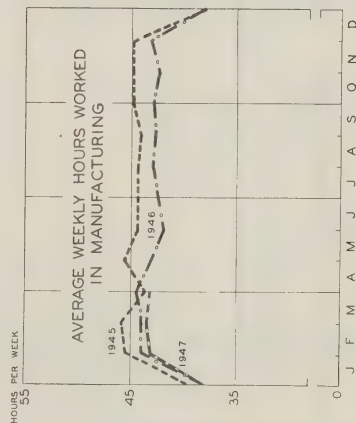
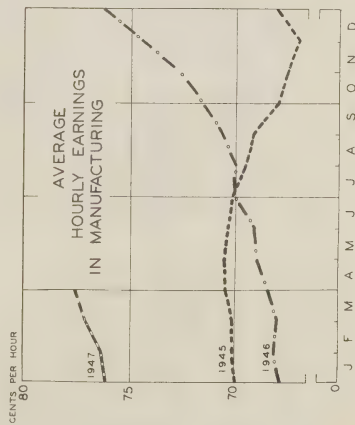
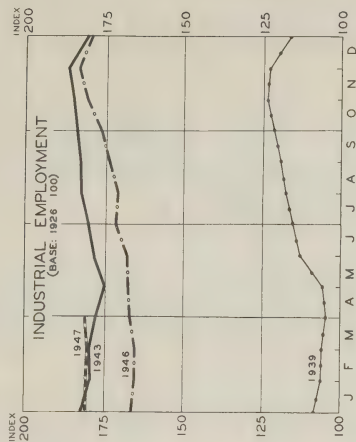
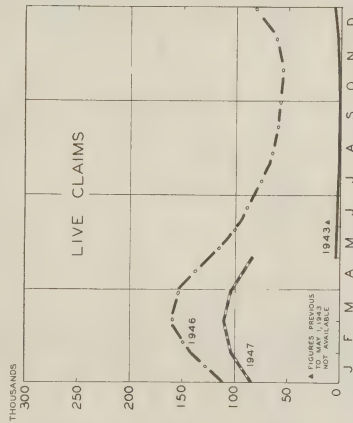
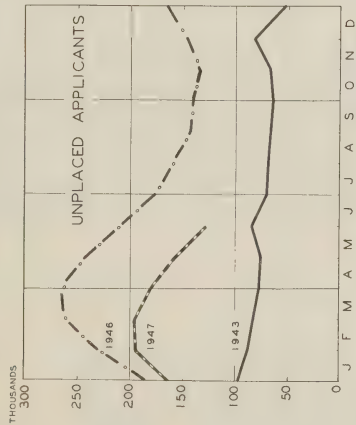
(1)

Computed by Research and Statistics Branch,  
Department of Labour.



# SIGNIFICANT LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

PRE-WAR, WAR, AND POST-WAR COMPARISON



## AS REPORTED BY THE

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

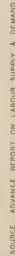


Table I--Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note:--All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Indicators	Apr. 1939	Apr. 1941	Apr. 1942	Apr. 1943	Apr. 1944	Apr. 1945	Apr. 1946	Mar. 1947	Apr. 1947
Employment (a)---									
Index (Av. 1926=100).....	104.9	140.1	163.1	177.8	177.8	174.5	167.7	179.0	179.4
(June 1, 1941=100)....	-	-	107.9	117.6	117.6	115.6	111.1	118.6	118.9
Number (thousands).....	1,126	1,504	1,751	1,909	1,909	1,873	1,800	1,932	1,939
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	508	499	426	438	441
Unplaced Applicants (b)---									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	77	67	82	266	195	181
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	49	43	54	217	157	146
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	28	24	28	49	38	35
Live Claims---									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	16	27	155	110	103
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	13	20	123	86	80
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	3	7	32	24	23
Earnings (a)---									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941=100)...	-	-	120.9	142.8	147.3	143.5	139.5	163.2	163.9
Per capita weekly earnings.	-	-	28.47	31.13	32.37	32.06	32.56	35.66	35.76
Cost of Living (c)---									
(Av. 1935-39=100).....	-	108.6	115.9	117.6	119.1	118.7	120.8	128.9	130.6
Man-hours and hourly earnings (a)---									
Average hours per week....	-	-	-	-	-	43.6	44.4	43.4	43.2
Average hourly earnings...	-	-	-	-	-	70.4	68.4	77.1	77.6
Strikes and lockouts (b)---									
Number.....	6	35	20	37	12	15	30	18	26
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	-	20	7	32	14	5	7	16	17
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	1	77	21	104	116	24	46	378	364
Industrial Production (d)---									
(Av. 1935=39=100)...	101.8	161.1	220.8	274.4	270.0	252.2	197.9	195.2	198.5

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only.)

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Labour and Prices Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.





# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE PROFESSIONS

Among the various types of labour shortage currently apparent in the Canadian economy, none is so persistent as that in the professions. Like most labour shortages, this condition is ordinarily latent and becomes intense only during a period of full employment like the present, but the high qualifications necessary for the work result in a longer time lag before supply catches up with demand. With the exception of teaching and nursing, where only a small section of the profession have degrees, the bulk of the professional classes are university graduates from such courses as medicine, dentistry, and engineering where four years training or more are required.

## What Are the Professions?

Roughly, a professional person may be described as someone doing work which calls for a high degree of mental activity and which is based on established principles of a profession or science. Usually, this requires an extensive academic background.

According to the 1941 Census of Canada, some 245,000 people are classified in the professional category. Included in this total are such occupations as authors, artists, actors, draughtsmen, designers, and musicians, but the major part of the total is concentrated among a few of the better known professions. The teaching, religious, medical, engineering and legal professions take in over 90 per cent of all professional people. Slightly over half are women.

By occupation, 88,000 of the 1941 total were school teachers, of whom 64,000 were female. Nurses and nurses-in-training numbered 39,000 and physicians and surgeons accounted for 12,000. Although the Census does not separate engineers as a unit, indications are that these numbered about 20,000 at that time. Clergymen and priests numbered over 14,000 and lawyers and notaries totalled 8,000.

## Growth of the Professional Classes

Back in 1871, only 34,000 people out of a population of 3,700,000 could call themselves professional. Keeping pace with basic changes in the country's social and economic structure, however, their numbers increased rapidly, the period of greatest growth, both absolutely

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- (1) This article has been prepared with the assistance of the Bureau of Technical Personnel of the Department of Labour.

and relatively coming between 1911 and 1921, when the total jumped from 100,000 to 180,000, (see Table I). Now, as has been noted, over a quarter of a million people are found in this group.

Table I—Growth of the Professions and of the Total Population in Canada, from 1871 to 1941.

(Source: Decennial Census of Canada, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.)

Date	Professions	Population	Ratio per 1,000
1871	34,000	3,700,000	9.2
1881	44,000	4,325,000	10.2
1891	60,000	4,833,000	12.4
1901	75,000	5,371,000	14.0
1911	99,000	7,207,000	13.7
1921	180,000	8,788,000	20.5
1931	224,000	10,377,000	21.6
1941	245,000	11,507,000	21.3

#### How Can a Person Gain Professional Status?

Skirting the much discussed subject of the intrinsic value of a university degree, there can be little doubt that for the average intelligent young man, the best approach to the goal of satisfying and responsible work, financial security and independence, is through the medium of a university education.

To-day, an outstanding feature of our national life is the extension of educational opportunities at the university level. The war has given added impetus to this tendency. Some 60,000 young Canadians now are taking some form of university training to improve their position in life. The influx of some 35,000 war veterans into university, coupled with a probable high level of prosperity, will see more graduates than ever before in the immediate postwar period.

This spring, an estimated 10,000 students got their degrees or diplomas. During the war, in the period from 1940 to 1945, some 42,000 students were graduated, or 7,000 every year, almost exactly the same number as in the pre-war period from 1934 to 1939.

Of those graduating this year, the largest single group, about 4,800 in number, have been studying Arts and Pure Science courses<sup>(2)</sup>. The majority of these will disperse themselves fairly widely on the Canadian labour market, but a large proportion will return to continue their studies. Many will become high school teachers of university lecturers; others will enter professional schools like the medical or legal faculties; some will return to do graduate studies; a few will go into business, and so on.

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(2) The Pure Science courses are distinct from the Applied Science or Engineering courses and include Chemistry, Physics, Biology, etc.



Most of the other graduating students have taken courses which will afford them entry to professional status in their chosen occupation. Medicine, which normally graduates about 600 annually; engineering (800), dentistry (100), are among the more important of these courses.

#### What Do Employers Think About University Graduates?

During the past year, the Bureau of Technical Personnel of the Department of Labour has been conducting a survey to obtain information on the future trend of labour demand in the professions in Canada. So far, this survey has interviewed some 1,500 firms which employ over 900,000 people.

Two questions asked in connection with this survey bear on the subject of the present attitude of these employers towards their professional employees. These topics were (a) the trend towards a freer use of university-trained personnel, and (b) comments on present university training.

Seventy-five per cent of those interviewed thought that there is a definite trend towards the freer use of university trained personnel in industry. A large percentage thought that a university training was becoming essential for more and more types of work, e.g., in the engineering and accountancy fields. Many considered university graduates preferable for key positions, remarking that they are "good material for advancement" and are more easily trained and make faster progress.

Of the 12 per cent who did not believe that there was a trend towards a wider use of university graduates, there were three main classes. These were (1) those who have sufficient university trained personnel on their staffs already (2) those who do not use these types of workers because they believe that the nature of their business does not require them (3) those firms whose company policy is to train younger workers. Thirteen per cent of those interviewed made no reply to this question.

With respect to a question on "comments on present university training", over 60 per cent of those answering had some suggestions to offer regarding the improvement of present courses. The most persistent themes running through these comments can be divided into three main categories.

First, a large number of employers thought that university students lacked practical training. The second point most often stressed was that university graduates often showed a lack of desire to work hard or to start learning the business from the bottom at a low salary. The third general theme concerned suggestions for curricula changes. In regard to engineering, the opinion was that these courses could lay more stress on English (particularly writing), business administration, economics and industrial relations. There were several suggestions that entirely new specialized courses be added, for example, courses in printing and flour milling at the university level.

Of the total number of replies to this question, over 30 per cent found the present system of university training entirely satisfactory and it is significant that this group included most of the larger employers of university-trained staff.

### THE ENGINEERING PROFESSION

Among returning veterans, the most popular course has been engineering. The postwar scramble for university degrees will produce five times as many engineers in the next five years as were turned out in the same period following World War I.

While the 1947 total of 1,100 graduates registers a new high, the peak will not be reached until 1950 when 3,700 will finish their course. A similar trend took place after the last war with the peak coming in 1923 when 629 engineers were graduated.

#### What is the Present Labour Market Demand for Engineers?

Canadian industry could use another 5,000 scientific and technically trained persons immediately. This is the estimate of Alex Skelton, Director-General of the Economic Research Branch of the Department of Reconstruction, made in a submission to the Senate Committee on Immigration. Mr. Skelton believes that many of the senior and intermediate technical positions could be filled by immigration, leaving the junior positions open for young veterans graduating. Approximately half of this 5,000 demand would be for engineers.

Throughout the past year, the Bureau of Technical Personnel, which, with the Executive and Professional Division of the National Employment Service, is concerned with the placement of engineers, has consistently had orders on hand for upwards of 1,000 technically-trained personnel with steadily fewer applicants.

These agencies report that, in general, this year's graduating class in engineering had little difficulty in finding employment and practically all summer students who were looking for work were placed.

In the twelve month period prior to March 31, 1947, the Bureau reports that 5,437 technical persons were recorded as entering new employment. Of these 1,501 were new graduates, 1,076 were demobilized from the armed forces, and 2,860 were persons who changed civilian employment.

From Table II which shows the changing distribution of technical personnel entering new employment, it can be seen that civil, mechanical, and electrical engineers are the more important groups numerically. Chemistry, the largest single group during the war years, has slipped to fourth place.

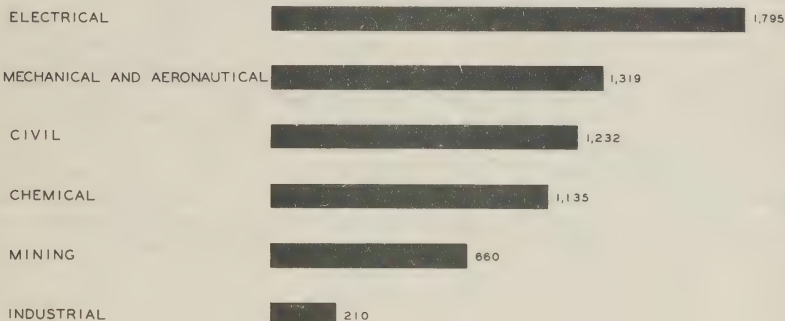
#### Will the Engineering Field Become Overcrowded?

Contingent on the continuance of a state of full employment, the supply of engineers should not seriously overbalance the demand in the next five years.

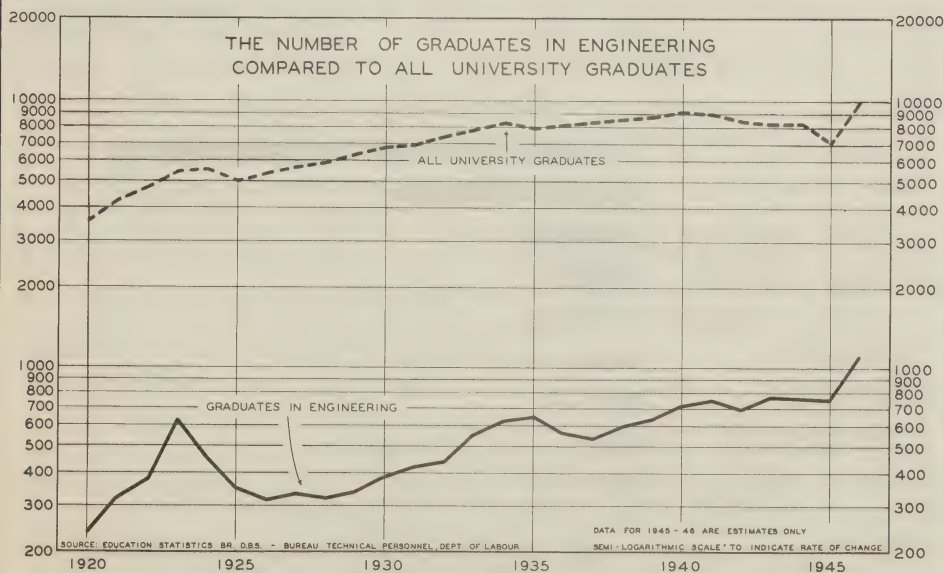
The survey of Canadian Requirements for Professionally Trained Persons, now being conducted by the Bureau of Technical Personnel, has found that the 1,500 employers interviewed expect to have openings for about 9,500 engineers in the next five years. The expected number of new entrants to the Canadian labour market is estimated at 11,000.

# THE ENGINEERING PROFESSION

## THE ENGINEERING FIELDS IN WHICH STUDENT VETERANS PLAN TO SPECIALIZE



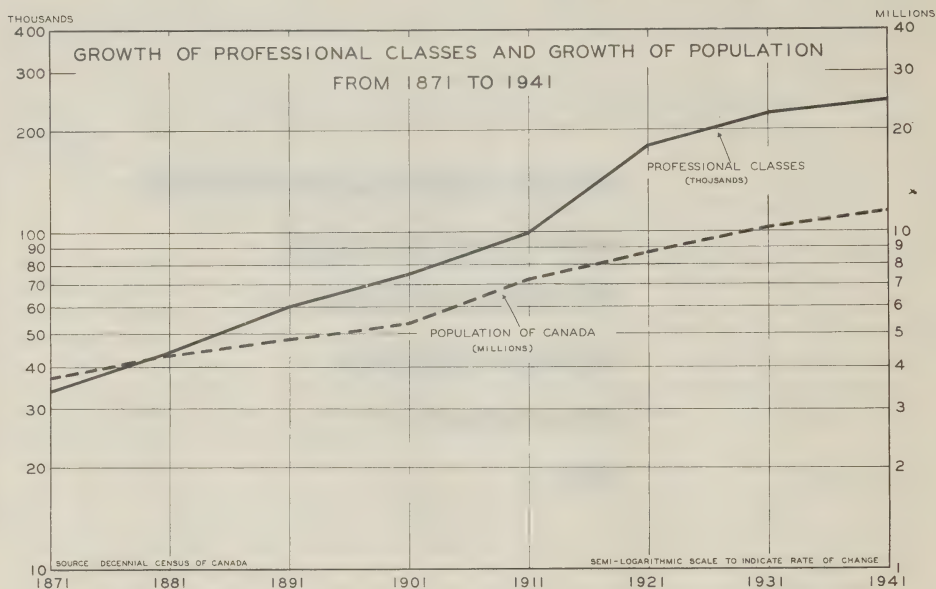
SOURCE: DEPT. OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS



SOURCE: EDUCATION STATISTICS BR. D.B.S. - BUREAU TECHNICAL PERSONNEL, DEPT. OF LABOUR

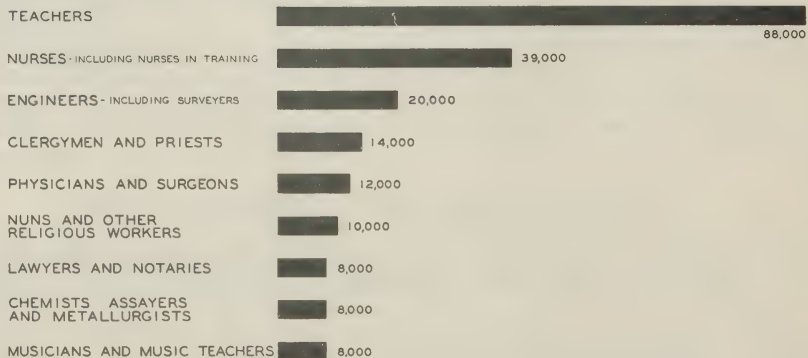


# THE PROFESSIONS IN CANADA



## THE MAIN OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS IN THE PROFESSIONS

1941



SOURCE: DECENNIAL CENSUS OF CANADA

Table II—Distribution of Technical Personnel  
Entering new Employment

(Source: Bureau of Technical Personnel, Department of Labour)

Profession	Three Years Apr./42-Mar./45	One Year Apr./45-Mar./46	One Year Apr./46-Mar./47
	%	%	%
Chemistry .....	13.5	11.2	9.2
Civil Engineering .....	13.2	12.6	16.0
Mechanical Engineering...	10.6	13.1	15.7
Household Science .....	8.5	4.9	3.7
Chemical Engineering.....	8.4	5.7	6.1
Electrical Engineering...	7.8	11.8	12.8
Agriculture.....	7.3	6.9	5.6
Mining.....	6.8	8.2	7.8
Physics Maths, & Physics.	5.3	4.1	3.0
Geology and Mineralogy...	4.0	2.6	3.1
Metallurgy.....	2.8	2.1	2.5
Architecture .....	2.1	1.7	1.6
Biol-Science.....	1.9	1.9	2.0
Forestry.....	1.5	1.6	1.5
Veterinary Science.....	1.4	0.9	0.7
Aeronautical Engineering.	0.5	0.1	0.4
Ceramic Engineering .....	0.2	0.2	0.1
Petroleum Engineering....	0.1	0.1	0.0
University Instructors <sup>1</sup> ..	4.1	10.3	8.2

(1)

About one-third of all university instructors are chemists, the remainder are distributed among various fields.

By year, the total of graduate engineers is divided as follows:

1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	Total	Allowance for emigra- tion and diversion to other fields (15%)	Net total
1,111	1,800	3,487	3,730	2,757	12,885	2,032	10,853

This total is not divisible into the various fields of engineering, as a large proportion of students have not yet reached the point where an actual branch of engineering must be elected.

On the demand side, the five-year estimate is divided as follows:

Civil	Mechanical	Electrical	Mining	Chemical	Metallurgical	Other	Total
2,200	2,100	1,750	1,300	1,100	700	700	9,450

The five-year total is given as it is expected that much of the present unfilled needs will be carried over for a few years.

This survey is not yet complete and with the addition of openings not yet covered by the survey, it can be expected that the total would be such as to maintain a reasonable state of equilibrium between demand and supply in the engineering profession over the short-term period. This is with the proviso that full employment continues, the only basis on which a survey of this kind was possible.

#### What Salary Can the Engineer Expect?

Upon graduation, the average young technical person, engineer or scientist, now goes to work at a salary ranging from \$2,240 to \$2,400 per annum, which is slightly higher than the average starting salary of the class of '46, estimated at \$2,100 per annum.

In 10 years, if he is reasonably successful, his annual salary should be over \$3,500 and after that the average salary curve continues to rise. Salaries in the \$6,000 to \$10,000 range are becoming increasingly common and a handful of top men in the profession, mainly holding executive and administrative jobs are in the \$20,000 to \$30,000 bracket. The job expectancy of the engineer is 37 years and the average age of the class of '46 on graduation was 23½ years.

These salary data are based on estimates made by the Bureau of Technical Personnel from information on file for some 13,000 engineers and scientists who had registered with the Bureau in 1941 and had not changed their place of employment by 1946. The average age of this group in 1941 was 44 years and the average salary was \$3,800 per year. The median salary (that is, the salary which divides the distribution so that an equal number of items lie on each side of it) was \$3,150, indicating that a few high salaries pulled the general average up.

#### Growth of the Engineering Course

Since 1921, the number of professional engineers has been increasing at a rate almost double that of the population growth, which is roughly about 1½ per cent per annum. In 1921, there were 13,000 engineers, in 1931, 16,000, and in 1941 the total was 20,000.<sup>(2)</sup> At the present time, largely due to the increased numbers in this course during the war years, the total is estimated at over 25,000.

While the rate of growth is considerably faster than that of the population as a whole, when compared to the growth of all university courses no marked trend is apparent towards engineering at the expense of other courses, except during the two immediate postwar periods.

After the last war, the proportion of engineering students among all student population reached nearly 12 per cent; in 1929 it was five per cent; by 1939 it was seven per cent.

During World War II, the engineering course was declared to be "essential" and the numbers registered in this faculty rose sharply reaching 10 per cent of the total by 1945. Since the war, of course, engineering courses have been jam-packed and the annual output will average nearly 3,000 in the first five postwar years.

(2)

These data include surveyors.



### Veterans in the Engineering Course

In February 1947, 8,100 veterans were enrolled in engineering courses at Canadian universities. In this year's graduating class, they formed 25 per cent of the whole, these being mainly students who left school at the end of their second year to join the armed forces. Next year, veterans are expected to form about 40 per cent of all graduates and in 1949 about 75 per cent.

These students have indicated that they would divide themselves among the various branches of engineering as follows: electrical-1,795; mechanical and aeronautical-1,319; civil-1,232; chemical-1,135; industrial-210; mining-660.

Comparing these figures with data on demand given above, it would seem that the civil and mining groups could absorb more graduates even when allowance is made for non-veterans. Electrical and chemical courses shows signs of possible overcrowding. In addition, civil engineers as a group are older than those in any other branch. In 1945, civil engineers over 55 years of age formed 40 per cent of the total in this branch. In mining engineering, those in this age group represented 25 per cent; in electrical 18 per cent; and in mechanical 10 per cent. Many of these older engineers continued to practice their profession during the war-created period of labour shortage and can be expected to retire shortly.

### The Position of the Engineer in the National Economy

As a result of the war, the process of industrialization of the Canadian economy was greatly accelerated. Canada is no longer primarily an agricultural country-the manufacturing industries now are the source of almost half our national output while the agricultural share has shrunk from 44 per cent in 1919 to an estimated 25 per cent in 1946. Industrial production now is almost double the pre-war level.

Up to the present, this process of industrial expansion and diversification consequent on the war has been so rapid that our maximum production potential has not been reached due to widespread manpower shortages. The shortage of engineers has been one of the more important of these.

In the future, the maintenance of the present high levels of employment and income will partially depend on the supply of engineers not only for the technical skills which they can provide but also for their entrepreneurial and managerial abilities.

To quote from the brief of Mr. Skelton on immigration already mentioned, while speaking in connection with the speed-up in production and reduction in costs resulting from the importation of scientists during the war, ".....the demand (for scientific and technical personnel) is likely to become more intensified during a period when such factors as production costs will have to be more carefully considered in meeting domestic and foreign competition than is the case at present. It should, therefore, be borne in mind, when considering present shortages, that a changeover from a seller's to a buyer's market may increase management's demand for this type of employee, and a forecast of employment needs based on present conditions in industry may be somewhat

low". And further on, "Without trained engineers, the capital equipment of the country will suffer. There is at present a great deal of capital maintenance and repair work to be done in Canada to replace the curtailed non-military investment program of the war years. New roads, hospitals, power plants, mining developments will not take place if there are not enough technical personnel with the experience and training to carry out these projects." (4)

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(4)

Senate of Canada, Proceeding of the Standing Committee  
on Immigration and Labour, June 12, 1947.

# OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The labour market, as depicted by vacancies and applicants available at National Employment Service offices showed a marked improvement during April despite adverse weather conditions. The number of jobs reported edged upward while persons applying for work were at the lowest level since the war's end. Consequently, a substantial cut was made in the unplaced which had accumulated during the months of seasonal inactivity. The number registered for work fell by 24,000 during April to reach 158,000 by May 1. One out of every three persons remaining on file was a veteran.

The level of general placement activity was substantially below that of 1946, reflecting in part the decline in labour market activities with the completion of reconversion. Expanding activity, however, was evident in the specialized placement of the handicapped and executive and professional personnel.

Applicants registering for work---There were 570,000 applications received in the first four months of 1947, representing approximately 12 per cent of the civilian labour force. Applications, however, do not necessarily coincide with the number of persons applying for work since the same person might be registered several times i.e., should an applicant not renew his application before the 30-day expiration period in which case he would be considered a new applicants at a later date; in the instance where a workers registered in more than one local office area; registrations between short-time placements into employment.

Applications showed a steady downtrend since the beginning of the year. The full brunt of unemployment was felt in January when Christmas employed help was released into the labour market. The unplaced mounted rapidly. By February the layoff rate had dropped off, but the greatly reduced absorptive capacity of the labour market forced the number of job registrants upwards. The combined affect of three factors, fewer industrial layoffs, heavy releases of loggers and the opening up of summer-active industries, resulted in a gradual decline in the number unplaced during March.

By April much of the shift from logging employment had taken place. Average weekly applications fell to 30,000. Despite the adverse affect of fewer recorded vacancies the unplaced fell by about 24,000 or 13 per cent to stand at 158,000 at May 1.

Reporting of vacancies---The effect of manpower de-control orders together with the unusually late spring throughout the country curbed the expansion of labour requirements. Not only was the level of reported job openings lower, but the seasonal rate of expansion was substantially reduced.



Fourteen per cent fewer jobs were reported in April than one year before.

The seasonal pattern also differed from 1946. Whereas reporting of vacancies in April indicated a 6 per cent gain over March, one year before the corresponding rise had been 18 per cent. Average weekly vacancies reported during April 1947 totalled 32,000 and by May 1 89,000 remained on file.

In interpreting these statistics it should be kept on mind that there is a considerable backlog of demand not presently recorded at employment offices. If the labour supply should sizably increase by such means as immigration, substantial dormant demand would become alive in mining, agriculture, textiles and domestic service. However, because of the relative scarcity of unemployment and the "selectiveness" of the unplaced, employers have postponed placing orders for help.

Placing of workers---Placements registered a monthly gain of 8 per cent during April but still remained slightly below the 1946 level. The yearly drop in part reflected the markedly larger labour pool existing one year before at which time demobilization continued at a high tempo. The falling off in placement activity was entirely among male workers - female placements were on the upswing.

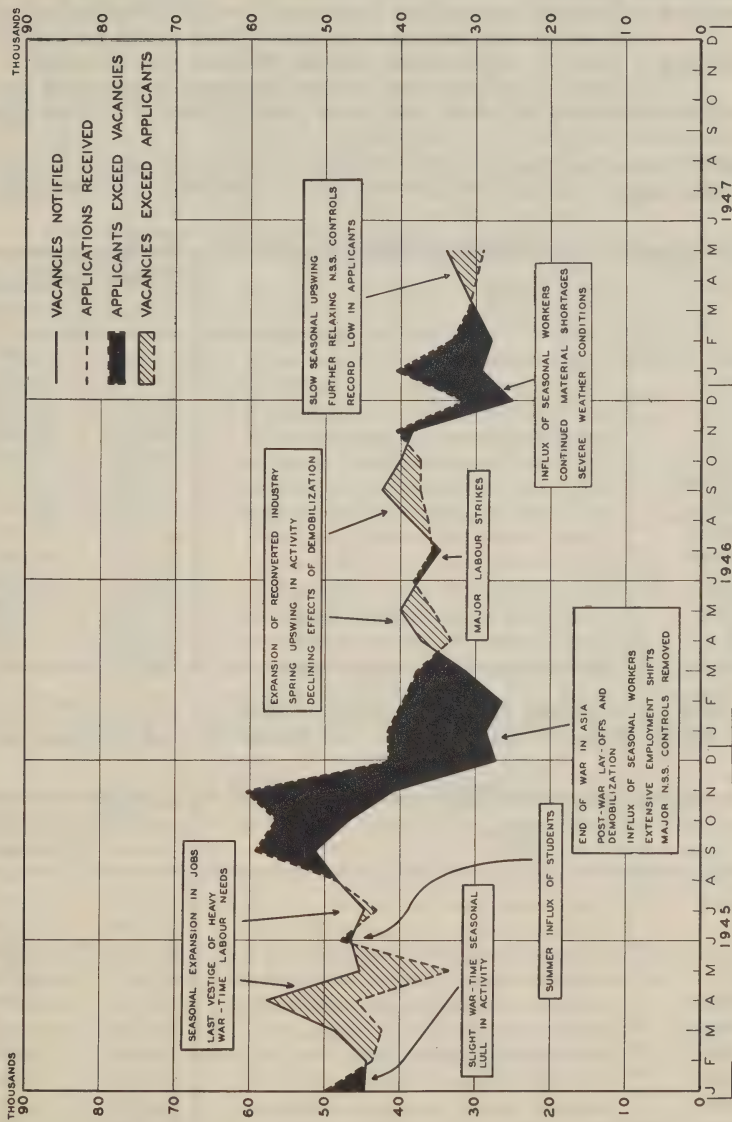
The continuing shortage of womanpower has resulted in a steady reduction in the unplaced while at the same time placements have moved upwards. One year before the economy was still in the throes of re-conversion. Quebec particularly was suffering from large pockets of unemployment as industry re-tooled for peace-time production. Over the year, the number of female job registrants had almost been halved while placements simultaneously have doubled. In Ontario where civilian industry had been well-established prior to the war, reconversion was speedier. Consequently, shortages of women have prevailed in that province continuously throughout the past year. The situation in the four western provinces has remained relatively unchanged with positions confined largely to service clerical, and seasonal food processing employment.

The clearance facilities of National Employment Service offer an important tool for relieving chronic unemployment spots and at the same time supplying help in labour-tight areas. During the past year there has been a substantial number of Nova Scotia workers removed from the acute unemployment area of Cape Breton to the labour-starved Quebec and Ontario mines and industrial centres of Brantford, St. Catharines and Kitchener. In addition, these Ontario centres recruited help from the ranks of the unemployed in Windsor and Oshawa. During April transfers averaged 321 per week.

Placements into non-agricultural industry during April totalled 14,800 per week. Industries singly responsible for more than 10 per cent of placements were; manufacturing (31%); services other than public and professional (19%); construction (16%); trade (12%).

The "veteran" situation---Most of the notable "bad spots" for veteran employment began to give way in April. The exception was in the Maritimes which alone was responsible for one-quarter of the unplaced veterans. In this region the chronic unemployment situation was further deteriorated by the prolonged coal strike.

# OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ON A COMPARATIVE MONTHLY BASIS



SOURCE: U.I.C. 751-B, DATA EXCLUDE AGRICULTURE AND REPRESENT WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART-MI-10

In Vancouver the unplaced fell from 6,274 to 5,212 during the month. This largely represented expansion of employment in the seasonal industries - logging, sawmills, construction and transportation.

In Windsor the unplaced declined from 1,705 to 1,143 - reflecting a notable improvement in the flow of raw materials.

At April 24 there were 52,000 veterans registered for employment. Over three-quarters of these had been seeking work for more than two weeks.

Table I—Average Weekly Applications for Employment at N.E.S. offices  
Since April, 1946, Total, Veteran, and Executive and Professional

(Source: Forms UIC 751B and 7550B)

Date	Average Weekly Applications		
	Total	Veterans	E. & P.
April, 1946.....	33,158	10,974	308
May ".....	35,376	11,064	299
June ".....	38,205	10,048	318
July ".....	35,802	10,220	279
August ".....	36,371	10,081	346
September ".....	37,389	9,643	264
October ".....	37,271	10,243	286
November ".....	40,606	10,665	276
December ".....	31,516	8,924	184
January, 1947.....	40,533	10,528	272
February ".....	33,231	8,768	275
March ".....	31,377	7,839	213
April ".....	29,805	7,417	256

Table II—Average Weekly Placements Made by N.E.S. Offices, since  
April 1946, Total, Veteran, and Executive and Professional

(Source: Forms UIC 751B and 7550B)

Date	Placements Per Week		
	Total	Veterans	E. & P.
April, 1946.....	16,402	5,951	58
May ".....	18,350	6,440	62
June ".....	17,925	5,519	58
July ".....	17,983	5,369	41
August ".....	17,548	5,007	33
September ".....	18,108	4,691	44
October ".....	18,598	5,183	59
November ".....	17,991	4,718	57
December ".....	12,370	3,463	43
January, 1947.....	14,284	3,816	64
February ".....	12,701	3,415	74
March ".....	14,038	3,561	54
April ".....	15,387	3,865	61



With this issue, the Canadian Labour Market presents a brief outline of "Summer Employment" one topical aspect of the labour market currently in the foreground.

### Summer Employment

The prevailing shortage of labour in both the technical and unskilled field offers an excellent opportunity for summer employment of students. On the part of many of these students, it is essential to obtain profitable employment--a large proportion are veterans whose DVA allowance will be discontinued during the summer months.

To some extent, the expansion which may be expected is indicated by the behavior of summer employment in 1946. The civilian labour force absorbed some 115,000 students in that period. About 70 per cent or 80,000 were high school students while the remaining 35,000 were university graduates or undergraduates.

The student body has been at approximately the same level during the two winter terms. It may, therefore, be expected that the rate of absorption will be equalled if not surpassed this year. Factors currently tending to expand employment are the more favorable employment conditions now existing, the publicity given to the problem by E. and P. offices, and the larger proportion of veteran students, who because of family responsibilities are willing in many cases to accept almost any type of work offering good wages.

Absorption to date--Generally, all university undergraduates had been successfully absorbed into summer employment at the date of writing. It was estimated that perhaps 1,000 were temporarily unplaced. Some of these were students who because they were reluctant to give up their present housing accommodation in congested university centres were unable to move to areas where workers were required. Others were taking a short holiday before seeking work.

A survey of the University of British Columbia students early in June throws some light on the employment trend. It disclosed that most of the male students accepted summer work in mining, construction, engineering and transportation industry. Among the girls, 33 per cent were employed in tourist resorts, 20 per cent in office work, 10 per cent in telephone companies.

Type of work sought--The student has two main objects in view when seeking employment. First, he will endeavor to gain experience in his chosen field, and second, he wants a good monetary return. For the practical or applied science student, these two objectives can be combined. The general Arts and Commerce undergraduates and high school students will probably accept profitably paid work suitable for inexperienced help.

Jobs offering practical experience--Most undergraduate engineers have been able to secure a job offering both experience and relatively good pay. Department of Mines and Resources, the National Research Council, mining companies and industry absorbed students at a salary rate averaging around \$150. per month.

Jobs available in hospitals approximately equalled the number of medical undergraduates seeking work. But because of the low salaries offered in hospitals many students accepted more lucrative opportunities in the general field.

A small proportion of students in household science courses were absorbed in openings for dieticians.

Employment expansion in the general field—Three factors normally boost employment during the summer—business created by the tourist trade; replacement needs during the vacation periods, and accelerated activity in the seasonal industries. The record level of tourist traffic expected this season will create jobs all along the line—from the corner garage station to the country summer resort. Much of industry remains understaffed, consequently replacement help will be required during vacation time if production levels are to be maintained at capacity. Heavy commitments in the seasonal agricultural, construction, and mining industries offer an excellent opportunity for employment expansion.

Stimulation of employment through tourist trade—Each year students and teachers fill hundreds of jobs in tourist and summer resorts. An adequate supply is usually obtained with little difficulty, since the work has pleasant surroundings and the remuneration (including tips) is relatively high.

Numerous opportunities exist for girls willing to accept temporary work in restaurants and hotels. Generally, however, few students are interested.

A combination of both replacement needs brought about by staff holidays and the additional activity of the tourist season tends to open up jobs in trade, amusement centres, public service, etc. In office work, girls with a basic knowledge of typing and shorthand rotate from job to job in the larger centres filling in during vacations of the regular staff.

Opportunities in the summer seasonal industries—The seasonal nature of Canada's economy necessarily results in a sharp upswing in employment during the summer months. The extent to which student labour can be used is dependent upon the ability of the respective industry to absorb inexperienced help. In the seasonal mining and construction industries opportunities for untrained help are directly related to the number of skilled men available. The current scarcity of experienced help has substantially limited expansion.

Considerable expansion did take place in these industries, however, in some areas. In Ontario, students accepted work in the mines at an hourly rate of 85 cents. In the Prairies, they were absorbed in construction at a wage rate averaging around 75 cents an hour. About fifty students in the Maritimes accepted track maintenance jobs at approximately \$120. a month with board.

Agriculture employment—Agriculture provides an important source of summer employment. These jobs usually are well-paid and little experience is required to perform much of the harvest work. In part offsetting these advantages are the serious drawbacks caused by the uncertainties of employment due to weather conditions, the short periods of employment, and frequently the distant location of work from the available labour supply. Because of these factors, the work is generally more suited to high school students who do not necessarily require an assured source of income.

In Ontario, the seasonal demand for inexperienced help is largely met through the Ontario Farm Service camps. Recruited mainly from the high school students, this service offers wages of about \$3 a day with keep. During the more advanced harvesting stages the rate of pay increases substantially.

In addition, Ontario offers some 15,000 temporary jobs for workers in the tobacco fields at wages ranging from \$6 to \$8 per day. These opportunities are available during the latter part of July and the month of August.

Harvesting operations in the Prairie provinces, at one time a major source of summer employment, have gradually cut down labour requirements because of the increase in mechanized machinery used. In 1946, transfers from the East from August 15 to September 20 were 3,700 - wages were \$5 a day and up.

In British Columbia, berry picking offers employment for hundreds of workers from the end of May until the middle of July. Movement of workers is aided by government reduced fares. Wages vary considerably in this work but the average monthly pay hovers between \$50, - \$90, with keep.





# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES

## Manufacturing

Estimated employment...1,059,000

Unfilled vacancies..... 35,000

After a slight winter dip, manufacturing employment now is on the way up. Except for seasonal fluctuations, there has been a steady increase in the size of the labour force since the precipitous postwar dip was halted in January, 1946. The underlying economic momentum continues to come from the backlog of effective demand for consumer durable goods, such as, automobiles, electrical apparatus and furniture. The demand for such consumer perishables as tobacco and beverages has also led to expanded employment in those industries.

Shortage of labour is most serious in the textile industry where 11,000 more workers, mainly women, are needed. Other industries and their respective shortages are food products (5,000), lumber products (3,500), pulp and paper products (3,000), and lumber and its products (3,000). By region, 20,000 of this total are in Ontario and 10,000 in Quebec.

Average weekly earnings now are \$36. - a year ago. \$33.

## Services

Estimated employment...868,000

Unfilled vacancies..... 23,000

The labour shortage is critical in the services industry, where employment expansion is limited by a lack of women workers and by low wage rates.

The estimated work force now is 100,000 more than at the same date last year. This rise has been entirely among males. At the end of the war, the sex ratio was about 1:1 but since then the jump in male employment has changed it to 1:1.3.

Personal service establishments, (hotels, laundries, restaurants etc.) are short some 10,000; domestic service-5,000; public service -3,000 and custom and repair-2,000.

### Transportation and Communication

Estimated employment...385,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 5,000

Soaring economic production has placed an extra workload on the distributive industries, pushing transportation and communications employment to an all-time peak of nearly 400,000; four of every five of this number are in transportation industries rather than communications.

Average weekly earnings in transportation are \$44. in communications, \$34. This wage level in the communications industry reflects the higher proportion of female workers, about 55 per cent, while transportation employment is 95 per cent male.

Normally, the seasonal peak in this industry comes toward the end of the summer. Last year, however, the annual high point was delayed until the late fall.

### Mining

Estimated employment....77,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 3,000

Resumption of work by the striking Maritime coal miners added another 14,000 to the labour force in this industry during June. Employment here is divided amongst the three major mining groups as follows: metal-38,000; coal-26,000; non-metallic-13,000.

Gold mines report the greatest lack of labour, needing another 1,000 men. Nickel mines could use 600; coal mines 500; and non-metallic mines (chiefly asbestos) another 400.

Price has been a major factor in determining the trend of mining employment. The unsatisfactory cost-price relationship currently existing in the gold mining industry has served to depress employment, as \$35 gold just doesn't give a sufficient profit margin for marginal mines. Lifting of the domestic ceilings on base metals will add an estimated \$12 millions annual revenue to the industry, however.

### Trade, Finance, and Insurance

Estimated employment....725,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 13,000

Considered one of the more reliable "storm signals" of an approaching business recession, retail trade activity shows no sign of a general downturn as yet. The April index of retail sales (unadjusted, on the base 1935-39=100) stood at 224.5, as compared to the April, 1946 figure of 212.7. Part of this increase is due to the rise in retail prices which have gone from 127.8 to 142.2 (1935-9=100) in the same period. On a dollar basis, the greatest increases in sales were registered by food and department stores. At the first of April, department store inventories were 43 per cent above their position one year ago.

Retail trade employment now is estimated at 315,000 with 7,000 vacancies reported.



A steady growth has been going on in the finance and insurance groups, which now employ over 80,000. Some 45,000 are reported as working in chartered banks, a 20 per cent growth in the last five years, and 31,000 are employed in insurance companies. Of the 2,600 finance and insurance vacancies, over half are in Ontario.

### Construction

Estimated employment....283,100  
Unfilled vacancies..... 13,300

Construction employment during 1947 has been running from 20 to 30 per cent above last year, featured by an unusually high level of winter activity. The spring upswing is limited chiefly by labour and material shortages, although the flow of materials is reported to be much more adequate this year.

The cost factor is becoming increasingly important and is considered to be a major reason for the downtrend in "contracts awarded". To the end of May, this year's total was \$254 millions, or \$24 millions below the same period last year.

Construction strikes, mainly in Ontario centres, seem to be pushing wage rates upward. In Toronto, current hourly rates as compared with 1946 average are: for bricklayers-\$1.66 (\$1.35), carpenters-\$1.41 (\$1.20), labourers-.75 (\$.65), electricians-\$1.38 (\$1.35), painters-\$1.15- (\$1.05), plasterers-\$1.56 (\$1.30), and plumbers-\$1.54 (\$1.30).

### Logging

The highlight of the logging industry is the negotiations which are currently underway between the various operators in British Columbia and the International Woodworkers of America (C.I.O.).

Industrial relations in this industry in the West have been rather turbulent during 1946 and 1947. Last year about 35,000 loggers from the West were on strike for more than a month and 450,000 man-working days were lost. Despite this strike, however, the volume of sawlogs cut in British Columbia exceeded that of 1945 by about 15 per cent.

The strike last year eventually resulted in the signing of 4 master collective agreements between the International Woodworkers of America and the operators in the following areas, Coastal (including Vancouver Island), Northern Interior, Central Interior and Southern Interior. All of these agreements are due to expire between June 20 and July 12 of this year if either party gives 60 days notice.

As early as the end of March the union served notice that it intended to ask for the re-negotiation of the contracts. Its principal demands were for a 20 cent-an-hour general wage increase, a 40-hour week, and a union shop. In addition, it asked for a health and welfare plan to be paid for by the industry on the basis of 5 per cent of the payroll.

During April and May the union several times threatened to call a strike vote because it claimed that the operators were refusing to "sincerely enter into negotiations in good faith". In the latter part of May, however,

the operators offered the union a 10 per cent general raise in wages and a 44-hour week.

On June 13, the British Columbia government appointed a conciliator for this dispute. By June 20, when the first master agreement expired no settlement had been reached. A strike, therefore, now looms as a definite possibility.

## THE RUBBER INDUSTRY

The Canadian rubber industry provides employment for some 25,000 workers who earn on the average about \$40 per week. Most of the industry's labour force is located in Ontario, over 75 per cent in fact, with all but a handful of the remainder being in Quebec.

There are 55 factories producing rubber products in Canada. Thirty-two of these are in Ontario; seventeen are in Quebec; and the remaining six are distributed among the Western provinces.

In 1945, these factories turned out products whose gross value amounted to \$181,000,000, of which Ontario's share was \$154,000,000. By type of products, this total was divided as follows: tires and tubes, \$85,000,000; footwear, \$25,000,000; and other rubber products, \$71,000,000. It is significant that twenty-two of the fifty-five companies produced over 95 per cent of this total.

Employment at all-time peak—Reported employment in this industry, 25,000 at April 1, has been rising steadily for the last ten years and the present level is the highest ever.

During the war, this growth was especially marked, in spite of the shortage of the raw material, and consumer demand has maintained production in the initial postwar period. In fact, employment now is double what it was in the same month in 1939.

Seven hundred more workers could be used—In general, it can be said that lack of labour is not a handicap to production in this industry. There is room however for several hundred more workers in the industry as a whole.

At the end of May, rubber companies had requests on file with the National Employment Service for an additional 700 workers to bring their labour force up to full strength. These orders were divided on a 4:3 ratio between men and women, with 75 per cent of the total being for jobs in Ontario factories and the rest in Quebec. A sharp increase in the number of vacancies in Kitchener, an active rubber centre, was reported. Tire builders and cure men were two occupations in which a shortage was noted.

Upward trend in wage rates—During 1946, wage rates in the rubber industry are estimated to have been more than 60 per cent above 1939. A preliminary index computed by the Department of Labour stood at 167.8 for 1946, on the base 1939=100, as compared with the 1945 figure of 143.7. This wage rate figure does not include overtime or bonus pay.

By occupation, these rates range from a low of 52 cents an hour paid to female quartermakers to the high of \$1.12 paid to male tire-builders, see Table I. A further breakdown on a regional basis shows that for all the occupations for which a comparison is possible, Ontario rates are higher than those paid in Quebec. To give only three examples, millmen in Ontario receive 96 cents an hour, in Quebec 68 cents; male cutters get 93 cents an hour in Ontario and 71 cents in Quebec; female shoemakers are paid 63 cents an hour in Ontario and 54 cents in Quebec.

Numerically, the more important of the occupations listed in the accompanying table are female shoemakers, male tire-builders, male curers, and male cutters in that order.

Further wage increases likely--The United Rubber Workers' Union (CIO-CCL) has definitely signified its intention of seeking wage boosts for its members this year. It is expected that a general raise of 20 cents an hour will be requested, five cents an hour less than the 1946 demand. This drive is being conducted on a plant-by-plant basis, which would seem to preclude the possibility of an industry-wide strike, such as took place last year. Included in the 1947 objectives of the rubber workers' union are a union shop throughout the industry, a 40 hour week, and paid vacations of two weeks after five years' service, with an ultimate objective of three weeks vacation for long term employees.

The union which claims a membership of 12,000, has based its decision on three chief factors, (1) failure to obtain its objectives in 1946, (2) increased living costs, (3) higher profits and productivity.

One company has already granted wage increases averaging about 12 cents an hour, to its employees. Early in June, the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in New Toronto announced that it had granted wage increases ranging from 9 cents to 16 cents per hour to its 2,100 wage earners. This followed re-negotiation of the existing collective bargaining agreement with the United Rubber Workers' Union, the original union request being for a twenty-cent-an-hour wage boost with the company offering five cents. A voluntary check-off is also included in the new agreement.

Thirteen cent an hour increase gained last year--After a four month strike last year, some 8,000 Ontario rubber workers were successful in gaining an additional 13 cents an hour "across-the-board".

These increases are included in the data on wage rates set forth in the Table below, which are preliminary estimates for the year 1946.



Table I—Preliminary Average Wage Rates for the Rubber Industry, 1945-46.

(Source: Research and Statistics Br. Dept. of Labour)

Occupation	Canada Average	
	1945	1946
Calendarmen.....	.91	1.00
Compounder-male.....	.82	.95
Curers-male.....	.87	1.04
Cutters-male.....	.74	.86
Labourers-male.....	.55	.62
Millmen.....	.72	.89
Packers-male.....	.59	.70
" -female.....	.43	.56
Press operators-male.....	.69	.78
Quartermakers-female.....	.45	.52
Shippers-male.....	.68	.77
Shoemakers-male.....	.66	.72
" -female.....	.48	.60
Tire builders-male.....	1.00	1.12
Tire inspectors-male.....	.90	1.03
Tubemakers-male.....	.84	1.09
Varnishers-male.....	.66	.78

Natural rubber becoming available—A rare commodity on the Canadian market since 1943, natural rubber now is becoming available in increasing quantities, imported chiefly from British Malaya. During April, 4,355 long tons (2,240 pounds) were brought into the country, the largest monthly shipment in the past three years.

Production of synthetic rubber is being continued at a high level, currently just over 4,000 long tons per month, a large percentage of which is exported. The domestic consumption table below shows how the Canadian rubber industry is using the three main types.

Table II—Domestic Consumption of Rubber, 1939 to 1946  
(in long tons, 2240 pounds)

(Source: Census of Industry Branch, D.B.S.)

Date	Natural	Synthetic	Reclaim
Monthly average			
1939.....	2,635	-	626
1940.....	3,083	-	703
1941.....	4,436	-	789
1942.....	3,512	-	1,042
1943.....	2,434	307	1,166
1944.....	799	2,061	1,052
1945.....	491	2,995	1,276
1946.....	792	2,468	1,178
Monthly totals			
1947-January.....	2,153	3,195	1,533
" -February.....	2,224	2,823	1,463
" -March.....	2,440	2,876	1,570
" -April.....	2,476	2,942	1,395

A slight increase in employment expected—Every three months, the Department of Labour surveys the larger rubber companies to obtain an estimate of what they expect their employment to be during the following six months. Seventeen establishments were interviewed this spring and these firms stated that they expect to add 5 per cent more workers to their staffs before October 1.

The employment in the group surveyed represents about 60 per cent of total employment in the rubber industry and should the rest of the industry increase their employment at this rate it would mean work for upwards of another 1,000 persons. Insofar as employment is concerned the seasonality factor is of minor importance at present.

An executive of one the major companies sums up the situation for his firm as follows: "We seem to be booked ahead for three or four months all the time, especially on tires. Our tube inventory is building up which is not unusual as the selling season is just commencing"

"Our largest market is Ontario, followed by the Montreal area and British Columbia. Our sales follow pretty well the population and per capita income."

"At the moment we are only allowed to export 10 per cent of our output. Pre-war, this figure was much larger, i.e., 66 per cent of our rubber boots were exported. Prior to the war, our largest markets were British Empire countries, notably Great Britain, the British West Indies, New Zealand, but not so much Australia. Now we are shipping to South Africa—this is quite substantial—South America, Sweden, Norway, and the Netherlands. We hope to renew our connections in Denmark and have had propositions from the Middle East."

In connection with domestic and export markets, another large firm states: "It is pretty generally agreed that the Canadian rubber industry is 100 per cent over produced for the domestic market. We hope to increase our exports as soon as the domestic demand is met, yet we are building plants in New Zealand and South Africa. Other companies are doing the same thing. We already have plants in Sweden and two in South America."

Large-scale employment drop occurred in 1921—After World War I, employment in the rubber industry had built up to 15,000 by 1920, but the recession of 1921 lopped one-third off this figure, employment dropping below the 10,000 mark.

A similar trend is possible in this postwar period. In 1939, employment averaged 14,000; now it is at the 25,000 mark and it seems doubtful that this employment is based on demand of a permanent nature. For the coming year, however, employment prospects are very good.

## AUTOMOBILES AND PARTS

Wage increase sought by union—Basing its decision on the claim that wage increases have been outrun by increases in profits and cost of living, this year the United Automobile Workers' Union (CIO-CGL) is making a drive for a general wage increase of 15 cents per hour for its members.

Negotiations are proceeding at the time of writing in the Oshawa plant of General Motors (5,000 members). A company offer of an 8 to 9 cent an hour increase has been turned down and a strike vote will be taken. It is expected that the settlement here will set the pattern for Ford and Chrysler agreements.

Average weekly wages now at \$41—In the first few months of 1947, the level of weekly wages has been higher than the average for the year 1946 (\$35.79), or 1945 (\$38.64). At April 1, 1947, the average weekly wage paid was about \$41 and the hourly earnings figures was just over \$1.

Weekly wage data for 1946 reflect the unsettled conditions in this industry when material shortages, especially of steel, forced periodic reductions in the length of the work week and lay-offs in all large companies. For this reason, the table below includes the hourly earnings and figures as well as the average weekly wages, to show the steady rise in hourly earnings. It would appear that, with stabilization of production now achieved, the wage-earner is doing much better financially. The wartime level of wages, when overtime pay was an important factor, has not yet been reached, however.

Table I—Average Hourly Earnings and Average Weekly Wages  
in the Automobile Industry 1945, 1946 and 1947.

(Source: Employment and Payrolls Statistics Branch, D. B. S. )

Date	1945		1946		1947	
	Hourly	Weekly	Hourly	Weekly	Hourly	Weekly
January.....	.91	34.05	.88	29.00	1.01	35.56
February.....	.95	43.94	.92	38.48	1.00	40.70
March.....	.94	43.24	.89	32.97	1.00	41.51
April.....	.94	40.99	.94	40.09	1.01	41.03
May.....	.94	42.40	.93	38.46		
June.....	.92	38.56	.90	33.79		
July.....	.91	38.63	.89	35.35		
August.....	.91	37.72	.91	37.23		
September.....	.92	37.96	.91	35.79		
October.....	.86	36.55	.91	33.49		
November.....	.85	35.79	.92	34.00		
December.....	.81	33.82	.99	39.70		
Yearly Average.....	90.5	38.64	91.7	35.79		



The 1946 preliminary wage rate index for the automobile industry (excluding parts plants) as computed by the Department of Labour on the base of 1939=100 is 140.3. The comparable figures for 1945 and 1944 were 130.3 and 126.3 respectively. The 1946 index, for all industries, on the same base is 154.6. This index supports the theses advanced above, that the hourly rate has been increasing although weekly wages may have dropped periodically.

Employment level highest for two years—The number of workers in automobile plants has been steadily increasing since last fall. In September, 1946, the labour force numbered 35,000; latest figures show the total to be over 42,000.

Employment more than doubled during the war. In 1939, average employment was 19,000; in 1943, the peak war year, the comparable figure was 45,000. With the end of the war, all producers made substantial staff cuts and 3 months after V-J day employment had dropped to 20,000.

A quick recovery took place in 1946, however, and employment reached 40,000 at June 1. A 10 per cent drop took place during the summer, but since then, as noted, the work force has been steadily growing.

Production now 22,000 units per month—Although the goal of satisfied demand is still far in the distance, a high level of automobile production now is being maintained. The April production of 22,000 units was the highest monthly output since January, 1942.

During 1946, 172,000 cars of all types were turned out, 65,000 of which were exported. The peacetime peak of production was reached in 1929, when 260,000 were made.

In the first four months of 1947, 82,000 passenger cars and trucks have been produced, of which almost 35,000 are expected to be exported.

Employment increase of 6 per cent forecast—A survey of leading employers shows that an employment increase of nearly 6 per cent can be looked for in the automobile and parts industry. Employment is expected to approach the 44,000 mark by October 1.

The following statements made by various officials interviewed highlight some of the outstanding features of the industry at the present time:

"Productivity is improving. We are doing considerable weeding out of unsatisfactory people and have raised our hiring standards at the same time. We have spared no expense in equipping our assembly lines with the most modern equipment."

"There just aren't steel production facilities to produce the sheet steel required. In addition, springs for upholstery are scarce.... It has been a constant struggle to keep our plants operating at present capacity....."

"We have plenty of orders on hand and expect increased requirements from new assembling firms. I cannot see any recession coming in our business. (parts).....Steel for gears and transmissions is in good supply but orders have to be placed well in advance. Orders accepted now by the steel companies will be delivered in the last quarter of the year....."

"Prices are admittedly high but the public is demanding all the gadgets and is willing to pay for them." This company believes that present buying conditions will continue for 18 months and plans to make only minor changes in its models until well into 1948.

A parts plant employing a high percentage of female labour reports that "absenteeism is high, particularly among women. Income tax deductions are considered to be partly responsible. Only two married women have left because of recent changes in income tax."

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following deals with May labour market conditions in each of the five regions, Maritime, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie, and Pacific.

Table I--Unplaced Applicants by Region, at Selected Dates

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

Region	May 29, 1947			May 1, 1947	May 30, 1946
	Male	Female	Total	Total	Total
Maritime.....	19,700	2,800	22,500	27,300	28,100
Quebec .....	28,200	8,300	36,500	45,700	64,100
Ontario.....	19,300	10,500	29,800	36,900	55,900
Prairie.....	15,000	6,200	21,200	29,100	34,500
Pacific.....	12,000	4,500	16,500	18,700	28,100
Canada.....	94,200	32,300	126,500	157,700	210,700

### MARITIME REGION

Job applicants down 5,000--During May the slow downtrend in job seekers, from the early April peak, continued with a decline of 5,000 in the number of unplaced applicants. The drop was due largely to the usual seasonal employment expansion in agriculture, construction, and the service trades, and in food and wood products manufacturing.

Coal miners back to work--The return to work of the Maritime coal miners at the end of the month was disturbed by further disagreement between the union and the Dominion Coal Company two days after the return movement had started. The renewed strike affected only the miners employed by Dosco; miners employed by other collieries continued at work. The disagreement concerned new working conditions instituted by Dosco. A series of conferences finally settled the dispute - the strike was over by the end of the second week in June.

Slight non-seasonal increases in employment--The settlement of the coal strike will make for improvement in the general manufacturing situation, both by removing the threat of fuel supplies being cut off, and



by improving business conditions in the mining areas.

Expansion plans of various textile companies will result in increased female employment. Canadian Cottons, Ltd., at St. Stephen and Fredericton, are increasing staff. Imperial Mills at Yarmouth are contemplating the additional employment of 100 workers. The Merrimac Canada Ltd., plant at Truro will be completed shortly, and about 200 women will be required. The difficulty of securing labour is complicated by the lack of living accommodation which hinders the transfer of workers into the area.

### Halifax

The tonnage of cargoes loaded and unloaded has undergone considerable change since 1938. Tonnages loaded and unloaded in 1946 show an approximate gain of 67 per cent since 1938, and a 14 per cent gain over the year ending December 31, 1945. While in 1938 outgoing tonnage represented only 33 per cent of the total tonnage handled; during the war, and also in 1945, outgoing tonnage of cargoes represented 74 per cent of total tonnage handled. Since then, however, the balance of tonnage outgoing and incoming through this port has levelled off until in 1946 outgoing tonnage represented 49 per cent of the total tonnage handled. Thus the balance of trade through the port is slowly returning to the pre-war pattern.

In contrast to the slow change in pattern of trade, was the rapid changeover of the waterfront labour force to normal seasonal work. Seasonal effects on employment are once again marked. During the war waterfront employment was high regardless of season, but at the present time only about 300 stevedores are employed, compared to the normal winter working force of 1,600.

Current fishing activity is very high, consequently most processing plants are operating at capacity. As a result, there is a fairly heavy demand for experienced help. Rumours of additional lay-offs at the Halifax Shipyards Limited have not materialized and it is likely that employment will be maintained or stepped up slightly this year. Construction work is quite active; there is no shortage of workers. Despite a reduction of some 400 unplaced applicants in May, there were still 3,736 applicants on file at the end of the month. Some of the unemployed workers are finding jobs in Ontario, and probably more will be sent from this district.

### New Glasgow-Pictou

Employment in the iron and steel manufacturing industry, and in shipbuilding in particular, has declined by 85 per cent since July 1, 1943. In fact, total employment has deteriorated to the extent that employment in August 1939 surpassed the present level by about 800 men. This exceptionally heavy decline was largely due to drastic lay-offs in shipbuilding and other war industry.

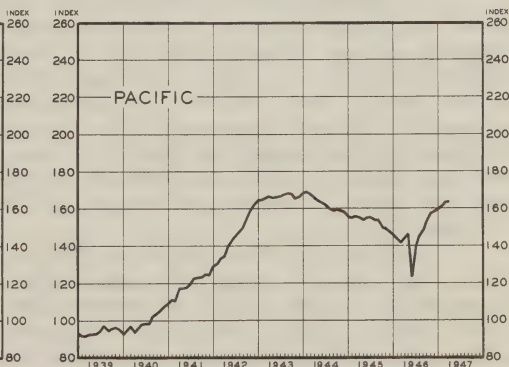
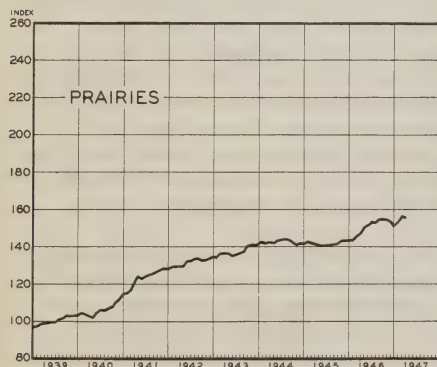
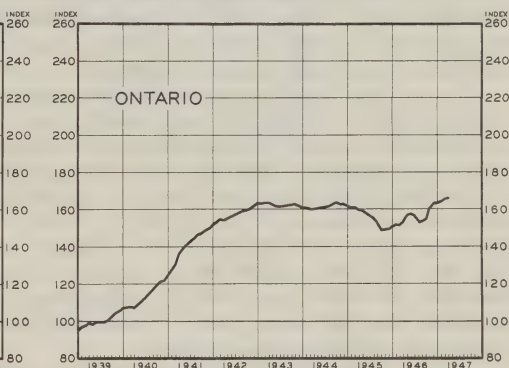
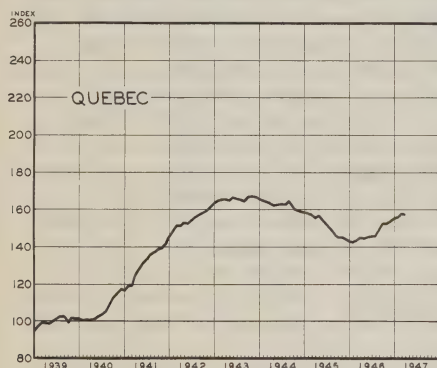
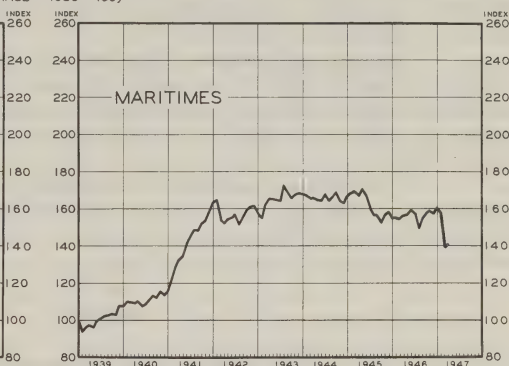
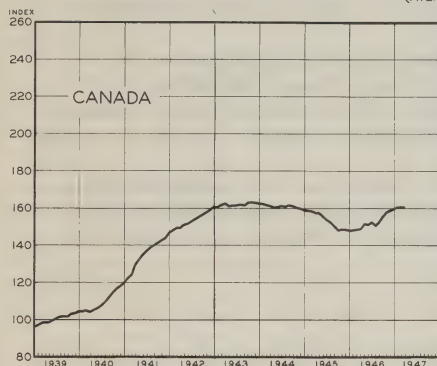
The Eastern Car Company manufactures railroad cars and steel hopper cars. The Trenton Steel Company operates an axle shop, machine shop, and press forge. The principal products of Trenton Steel are marine forgings used in the shipbuilding industry, and axles used on freight and

# REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)



passenger railroad cars. Thus two of the larger plants in this area are dependent on the railway rolling stock and shipbuilding industries. But the importance of shipbuilding as a source of employment is declining in the Maritimes and manufacturing of railway rolling stock has been sporadic at best. There has been very little change in the operations of other plants in the area.

Local coal mines operated for one day on May 28, after which the miners were called out again because of an alleged violation of the tentative agreement. A settlement has again been made and miners will return to work on June 12 or as soon as the collieries are ready to start operations.

The steady movement of labour to factories and construction projects in Ontario has already relieved the ~~serious unemployment situation~~ to some extent. Construction work in this area should help reduce the number of unplaced applicants.

### Sydney

While the month of May saw a small reduction in the number of unplaced applicants, this decline is attributable to the fact that men were placed in jobs in other areas. At May 29, there were still 5,445 unplaced applicants with little or no demand for their services.

Even with the pre-strike force of coal miners back to work, present overall reported employment would be only slightly higher than at September 1, 1939, when unemployment was severe. The local steel mill is working at capacity and coal mining employment, at least, before the strike, was at a good level. Despite this fact, the number of unplaced applicants is very high. Thus at the present time the iron and steel and coal mining industries cannot absorb jobless men, let alone make way for teen-agers entering the labour market every year. Aside from the construction work in progress, there are virtually no employment opportunities in this area. This problem is but an aspect of the general provincial employment problem.

In Nova Scotia, the census of 1871, shortly after Confederation, showed the population to be 387,800 compared to 577,962 in 1941, a net increase of some 49 per cent. In contrast, the net increase in the population of Quebec during the same period was 179 per cent and in Ontario 134 per cent. From 1871 to 1941 the Canadian population increased 199.3 per cent by natural increase. If a similar percentage is applied to the Nova Scotia population for 1871, the present population would be slightly over one million people instead of the actual 1941 population of 577,962. Thus the current movement of unemployed workers is by no means a new development.

From 1871 to 1941 manufacturing employment in Canada increased by 411 per cent. In comparison manufacturing employment in Nova Scotia increased by 57 per cent. In Ontario the increase was 436 per cent, and Quebec 391 per cent. While most employment in Nova Scotia is centered in the coal mining, fishing, agricultural, and lumbering industries, these industries cannot provide jobs for the natural increase in population. Therefore economic pressure has forced an outgoing population movement.



### Saint John

Overall reported employment in this city shows a net gain of 761 persons from March 1, 1946 to March 1, 1947. This increase was not spread over every industry group. The distribution of labour has undergone a definite change despite the overall increase in total employment.

Manufacturing of machinery and machine tools has dropped about 130 men in the past year and the whole principal iron and steel group accounts for a decrease of about 200 men. On the contrary, pulp and paper and lumber products manufacturing show an increase in employment which largely accounts for the net gain in manufacturing employment of some 90 persons.

Wholesale trade accounts for 78 per cent of the 671 additional persons now employed in non-manufacturing as compared to March 1, 1947. Thus, while employment in principal iron and steel groups showed a tendency to decline in the last year, other manufacturing, and non-manufacturing are maintaining the employment level. The actual number of people hired in wholesale trade is probably much higher than reported employment figures indicate because reported employment figures cover only establishments with fifteen employees or more.

Local fishermen report that the run of shad has been so large that there is very little market for these fish at the moment. However, a fair catch of salmon is reported with prices remaining fairly high. The Saint John Sulphite (pulp) are enlarging their plant and expect to hire from 50 to 75 men. Port activity is slack at the moment but most of the men who were employed at the waterfront are taking employment of a general labour nature, either going back to usual summer jobs, or returning to their farms.

## QUEBEC REGION

Weather delay continues--Unseasonable, cool, wet weather in May continued the April set-back to agriculture. Seeding has been substantially delayed and floods have caused heavy losses in the western part of the province. Bad weather has impeded construction work, and retarded the upswing in the tourist business.

The logging industry has also suffered because of the weather. Still-abundant snow in the bush hampered spring cutting, and high water checked driving operations. In many parts of the region logs will not be let into the main streams until flood waters drop considerably. About half the saw mills were not in operation at the end of the month. Those located where logs could be hauled, or situated on lakes where driving operations were underway, have begun the season's work, but elsewhere activity will not begin until the level of the water has lowered and logs can be brought down.

Industrial demand for labour up--In various industries increased material supplies have brought a rise in employment. The demand for skilled tradesmen from foundries has expanded and it has already become difficult

to secure experienced moulders. Shipbuilding in Quebec City is showing renewed activity, with a growing demand for skilled workmen. At Ste. Therese a more abundant supply of woods and veneers has permitted increased employment in the furniture and piano manufacturing plants.

Labour demands from primary textile plants remain heavy. Campaigns to recruit female labour have had small success. Low starting wages and a lack of housing are the chief deterrents. In secondary textiles, the labour situation is similar, although a decline in vacancies on file for women from the industry in Montreal reflected cancellations of orders in the higher priced lines of goods.

Increasing transfers of labour—The Regional Officer reported that placements through N.E.S. by transfer increased in May to 150 per week. The regional labour market is characterized by both heavy unemployment (Quebec and Hull) and serious labour shortage (Montreal and the textile towns), and the recruitment of workers in areas of unemployment to satisfy the requirements of areas of labour shortage can do much to improve the overall employment situation. Housing is the chief obstacle to any major movement of labour and transfers have been substantially facilitated in cases where employers have provided room and board for prospective employees.

#### Chicoutimi

The employment level at the Aluminum Company of Canada remained stationary during May. About 140 men were hired as replacements, and it is expected that an additional 200 will be hired in June to take care of labour turnover. Although the local labour supply is inadequate, recruiting must be confined to the Chicoutimi-Arvida area. Lack of living accommodation prevents the Aluminum Company from bringing in workers from other districts.

In the logging industry, the river drive now is in full swing. Approximately 700 men are engaged in driving operations and an additional 400 are required.

High employment levels are being maintained in the various small industries situated in Arvida. Orders for workers are readily filled locally.

Transportation and construction are responding to the seasonal uptrend with labour demand fairly heavy. Demand for farm help is nil, as seeding operations have been delayed by cold, wet weather during the past two months.

#### Montreal

The downtrend of unplaced applicants continued during May. Overall employment in this area showed a slight increase.

In the manufacturing field, the iron and steel industry, proportionately the largest employer of labour in the area, showed a further improvement. Demand for help has increased and heavy foundry labourers are in particularly short supply at the present time. Production in the electrical apparatus and radio manufacturing industries



is being retarded by the serious shortage of females for assembly line work.

Labour shortages continue to curb textile manufacturing, second only to iron and steel in importance. Demand for help in the garment manufacturing industry is slackening off in face of growing consumer resistance to high priced lines of clothing.

Because of recent price increases, many items of food and drink not in the essential class have shown a heavy drop in sales. This in turn will result in production curtailment and staff reduction in certain plants in the food processing industry.

The approach of summer finds the service industries having increased difficulty in obtaining and keeping workers for the lower salaried positions. Many workers are gravitating towards summer resorts where the work is lighter and better paid.

Typists and stenographers remain in short supply. The June crop of business school graduates will ease the shortage to some extent, but the supply of single, qualified girls is far from adequate to meet the heavy demand.

#### Quebec

The number of unplaced applicants dropped about 1,800 during May. However, a surplus of 8,500 job seekers still remains in Quebec and Levis, that is, 13 unplaced applicants per hundred wage and salary workers employed. Quebec now has the highest ratio of unemployment among cities with a population of over 100,000.

A stronger industrial development appears to be the only solution to the labour surplus problem in Quebec. This city offers many attractions to new industry, with its excellent shipping facilities and abundant electric power combined with a large reserve of manpower.

Concrete signs of industrial expansion are already evident. All but one of the former St. Malo Arsenal's buildings have been sold to private concerns, which in full production will employ over 2,500 workers. It is hoped that the St. Malo project will form the nucleus of a greater industrial expansion, and unemployment will gradually edge downward.

#### Shawinigan Falls

In 1946 Canada became the leading aluminum exporter of the world. Last year this country produced 22 per cent of the world's total aluminum supplies and, on the basis of proposed 1947 production, seems likely to increase this margin to one-quarter of world production. This compares with eight per cent in 1937, and 12 per cent in 1940. Alcan is the largest producer of aluminum products in Canada and concentrates principally on export trade.

Alcan at Shawinigan Falls has greatly increased its diversification of products. This change may reinforce its competitive position in the export market, which absorbs about 65 per cent of its production. With plant expansion completed, and new equipment and production facilities in operation, Alcan forecasts an annual production increase of 4,000 tons of wire and wire products. This expansion and changeover program will probably be spread over a period of eighteen months to prevent interfering



with present production, which is booked to capacity.

Other industry is also expanding plant capacity and production facilities. Shawinigan Chemicals Limited has kept up employment remarkably well since the war and employment will be increased to keep pace with increased production and immediate plant expansion. Canadian Resins and Chemicals Limited - a subsidiary of Shawinigan Chemicals - is doubling its present plant capacity in the plastics field; production will start about mid-1948, providing further employment in this field.

In addition to the present plant (Wabasso Cotton), Canadian Converter Co. of Montreal will open up a new textile plant in Shawinigan Falls this summer which will eventually employ about 400 women. While there were only 291 women registered for employment at May 22, most of the required help is available locally.

### Sherbrooke

The overall employment situation in this city looks optimistic. The textile industry now employs 27 per cent more workers than during the war. Canadian Ingersoll-Rand, the largest firm in secondary iron and steel manufacturing, employs nearly three times as many workers as in September 1939. Add to this high employment level the normal seasonal demands for construction workers, loggers, and agricultural workers, and it can be readily seen why unemployment has not been a serious factor to contend with since the war. If employment does not increase in 1947 it is not because industry lacks the ability to expand but rather is traceable to the fact that suitable workers are not available for this plant expansion.

The chronic shortage of textile workers promises soon to become serious enough to retard production; one large textile firm cannot keep up their night shift for lack of labour; another company is losing many employees through women getting married and leaving. Since last month demand for workers in the secondary iron and steel industry has increased, causing a shortage of skilled and unskilled men in all departments, particularly in foundries.

Construction work has been delayed by adverse weather conditions. There are very few vacancies on file for farm help but at the same time there are no applicants available. It is evident that farm workers prefer to look for employment in their own vicinity rather than apply for work through the local office; the same condition applies to bush workers. Most of the applicants for bush work were only interested in work in the U.S.A. Consequently there are no applicants on file with the local office for woods operations in the area.

### Three Rivers

Adverse weather and shortages of certain types of materials were largely responsible for the rise in the number of unplaced applicants during May.

Many bush workers are idle at present - cutting is almost completed but the river drive has been held up by floods, which are the worst in fifty years.

Floods have also delayed spring ploughing and planting. Contraseasonally, then, farm help is practically non-existent.

The construction industry does not appear to be so active as in 1946. Materials are more readily available but mounting prices are discouraging private building.

Employment in the pulp and paper industry remained stable during May. Labour turnover in this industry is comparatively low in Three Rivers owing to the lack of alternative jobs available. Shortages of material have made a lay-off of 60 men necessary in the paper products manufacturing industry.

The expected transfer of workers to the shipyards in Sorel has not yet materialized. Approximately 200 men from Three Rivers will be given jobs at the Marine Industries Limited at Sorel during the next three months.

### Valleyfield

Total reported manufacturing employment in Valleyfield now is approximately 45 per cent above the September 1, 1939 level. Expansion in textiles, this area's major industry, is largely responsible for the gain.

Chemical and explosives manufacturing employment, which was 357 at April 1, 1947 compared with 106 at September 1, 1939, expanded to over 2,000 during the war. In the immediate post-war period, employment in these industries dropped to below 500. The resultant surplus of unplaced applicants (over 1,100 in February 1946) gradually lessened as displaced war workers emigrated, went back to own account jobs, or were absorbed by expanding local industry.

Approximately 1,200 persons have been taken on at the War Assets Clothing Reclamation Depot since its establishment early in 1946, thus helping to soften the blow of the post-war collapse of the explosives industry.

During the past year total employment in all manufacturing plants of over fifteen employees (excluding War Assets) showed an eleven per cent gain. Unplaced applicants now are below any level since the end of the war. Labour demand is proportionately strong, with the majority of job openings concentrated in the textile industry, where labour turnover is exceptionally high.

## ONTARIO REGION

Crops threatened by bad weather—Field crop prospects have been seriously affected by one of the worst springs for many years. Only 50 per cent or less of the intended acreage of coarse grains had been seeded by the beginning of June. A meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture to study the seriousness of the feed grain situation predicted "at best a coarse grains supply amounting to 45 per cent of last year's crop" in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick.

A shortage of feed grains will result in the lower production and higher cost of livestock. The packing houses now are being flooded



with pigs, as farmers anticipate supplies of grain will be too short to finish the pigs properly for market. This has caused a considerable upturn in packing house employment.

The farm labour picture is changeable. There has been little immediate need for labour, but farmers have tried to get as much help as possible to get work done when weather is favourable. The fear has been expressed that, the harvest being late, there won't be sufficient labour to get it in.

Heavy labour demand in manufacturing—Manufacturing seems to be approaching peak production within the limits of materials and labour available. An improvement in supplies of raw materials has contributed to a general effort to secure additional labour. In spite of the fact that there are still almost 30,000 applicants on file with N.E.S., efforts are being made to import labour. This would signify a lack of the requisite skills among a large number of the applicants. In certain areas it is reported that the pool of available labour consists largely of those willing to work only at casual labour, or those who are beyond the age limits employers have set. Efforts are being made by the offices to secure the placement of the older workers, with a certain degree of success. However, there are many positions, especially in heavy industry, which demand a high standard of physical fitness and cannot be filled by the older applicants.

There have been increasing numbers of transfers-in of workers from the Maritimes to fill vacancies in heavy industry and also in factories. There have also been efforts on the part of employers to secure skilled labour in Great Britain. Lack of housing is the chief obstacle to a wider scale import of labour.

The foundry industry is in great need of moulders and heavy labour. Textiles and radio manufacturing are desperately short of female help. But elsewhere, it would seem that additional labour is desired because of efforts to boost production by working plant and equipment as near to capacity as possible, to take advantage of the present seller's market.

### Brantford

Brantford, with its heavy concentration of manufacturing industry (heavy machinery and textiles predominating) is experiencing an employment boom unprecedented in its history.

Domestic and overseas commitments ensure a high level of employment in the iron and steel industry for some time to come. Employment in firms in the principal iron and steel category now is 24 per cent higher than in 1939.

The future of the textile industry is also bright, although a slight recession is expected within the next year.

Local canning factories have commenced operations, and, as the summer advances, labour demand will strengthen. This industry provides employment for a large number of part-time workers, principally married women for whom there is no place in industries operating the year-round.

Construction work has been somewhat delayed by continued bad weather, but there is sufficient work on hand to keep all available tradesmen and labourers occupied.



### Hamilton

In the Hamilton labour market area, labour demand continues to rise while the available supply of workers is steadily diminishing. Students taking jobs for the summer months have eased the labour shortage to some extent and little difficulty has been experienced in placing the large number applying for jobs at the local office.

Manufacturing as a whole maintained a high level of employment throughout May, although a slight recession was noted in the heavy machinery manufacturing industry.

In the construction industry labour demand continues strong. Progress is slow on most building projects owing to labour and material shortages. The value of building permits issued during the first five months of 1947 was well above that in the corresponding period last year. In addition, a number of important public works have been planned for this year, ensuring a high level of employment for some time to come.

Total reported employment in Hamilton now is almost double the 1939 level, with expansion in the iron and steel industry largely responsible for the increase. Further expansion is expected in the iron and steel industry as the material supply situation continues to improve.

### Kingston

Employment conditions as a whole are favourable due to seasonal advances in non-manufacturing industries. However, employment cut-backs in manufacturing industries have been noted during the past month.

At the Aluminum Company of Canada, production in the sheet mill continues unabated, but other departments are slowing down considerably. Few men are being hired.

At the Canadian Engineering and Shipbuilding Company, over 100 men were laid-off in May, because of insufficient steel supplies.

The Canadian Locomotive Company has reduced its staff from 1,200 to approximately 700 since the first of the year. Further lay-offs will take place shortly unless new contracts are obtained.

In the construction industry, private house construction has fallen off considerably, but the large volume of industrial building now underway will keep all available workers busy for many months to come.

Labour demand in retail trade, and services, has strengthened considerably under the stimulation of heavy tourist trade. Orders for sales girls are readily filled, but laundry help, domestics and hospital workers are almost impossible to obtain.

### Kitchener - Waterloo

The high level of employment in Kitchener-Waterloo compared with other Canadian cities is almost entirely due to the fact that this area has a heavy concentration of manufacturing in comparison with population. On the basis of the 1941 census of population and Census of Industry manufacturing employment data, 32.4 per cent of the total population of Kitchener - Waterloo were employed in manufacturing. This compares with 15.4 per cent for all of Canada; 19.9 per cent in Toronto proper, and 16.4 per cent in Montreal proper.

Thus, when industry in Kitchener - Waterloo is working at capacity a heavy drain is placed on the available local labour force. The inability of the local population to supply workers for industry is clearly evident when one considers that at this time although hundreds of commuters are working in this locality, a heavy shortage of labour in many industries persists.

Currently, there has been a sharp increase in the demand for workers in meat-packing, textile, and rubber industries. Some lines in the food industry show a slight recession due to retail price conditions and the shortage of essential raw materials. Peak production appears to have been reached by local furniture manufacturers, but there is still a good demand for skilled wood-workers. Orders for workers in the iron and steel industry show an increase with no applicants available locally. Figures submitted by insurance and local financial houses indicate steady employment in this area with increases in the majority of payrolls.

Unfilled vacancies increased from 1,069 at March 1, to 1,798 at May 29, increasing about 500 during May. A comparison of unplaced applicants is hardly worth while - the number of registered job seekers is negligible and demand for nearly all types of workers has exceeded the supply for a very long time.

#### London

The past month brought little relief to the tight labour situation in this area. Improved material supply deliveries, coupled with the opening up of seasonal employment opportunities have resulted in an increased demand for workers in almost all categories. The National Employment office live file of applicants now is drained of all but those workers in the older age group, partially-employables and job-changers.

Manufacturers in the iron, steel, and brass manufacturing categories continue to operate at near capacity employment levels, and in many cases would initiate additional shifts if workers were available.

Electrical apparatus manufacturers report only a minor improvement in their supply problem, and it is not likely that peak production will be reached until early in 1948.

In the construction industry, high material and labour costs, together with existing shortages are causing the postponement of many proposed housing projects, plant additions, and building for new industry. Generally, the trend in this industry appears to be edging downward, thus labour shortages are not so acute as in 1946.

#### Niagara Falls

Employment conditions are exceptionally good in the Niagara Falls area. The continued high level of employment in manufacturing industry coupled with increased activity in construction and the tourist trade has reduced the number of unplaced applicants to a minimum. Job seekers applying for employment through the N.E.S. offices are, for the most part, either older than employers will accept or unemployable.

Abrasive and chemical plants in the area are taking on extra help for the busy summer months. Approximately 75 college students have obtained employment in this field, and an additional 20 furnace labourers now are required.



In the iron and steel industry, production is restricted by shortages of steel and zinc. As a result, temporary lay-offs have occurred.

The canning season has commenced, and demand for female help will become progressively stronger as the season advances. High school students working for the summer months help relieve the labour shortage in this line.

Total employment in the Niagara Falls area exceeds that of a year ago, with greatest expansion occurring in non-manufacturing industries. In the latter group, employment increases in hotels and restaurants accounted for the greater part of the total gain. Indications are that this year's tourist influx will top last year's record, thus further boosting employment in the service industries.

### Oshawa

Employment in the automobile industry continues to fluctuate owing to irregular material deliveries.

The progressive lay-off of "truck-line" workers at General Motors is still taking place, although a few men have been recalled to work on the passenger car assembly line. As soon as full scale operations in the truck department are resumed all workers will be recalled and additional men taken on.

Other manufacturing industries in the area are operating at a normal level, with labour demand light. Material shortages in the glass manufacturing industry have been overcome, and all laid-off workers re-instated.

The construction industry is very active at present with a strong demand for heavy labourers. A number of men temporarily laid-off from the General Motors plant have taken jobs with local building contractors, thus relieving the labour shortage to a great extent.

### Peterborough

At March 1, 1947 overall reported employment was 12 per cent higher than at the same time last year. The year 1947 promises to see a further expansion in employment. All factories in this city have reached, or are nearing full production, with the exception of the Canadian Raybestos Co., which suffered from the cancellation of orders from the automotive industry.

The Canadian General Electric Co. is going to build a two million dollar addition to its already large plant which, on its completion, will create an upswing in demand for all types of workers. Work is progressing on a new plant for Canadian Nashua Paper.

Currently, the Canadian General Electric has been taking on from five to ten men per day for the past month - mostly unskilled labour for the various departments in the plant. Quaker Oats has again increased production but is having difficulty in securing men for a new shift as the men hired must weigh over 165 pounds and be capable of doing heavy work. Canada Packers is operating at peak capacity after an exceptionally quiet winter.



It has been pointed out that conditions in the agricultural industry are very serious: there has been little or no seeding done and crops this year will be very late. There are more orders for farm help than men available.

The surplus of unplaced applicants which built up during the winter months has disappeared under the pressure of heavy labour demands both in seasonal, and manufacturing industry. Most male applicants range from 57 to 78 years of age. Only 98 male and 5 female applicants were receiving unemployment insurance benefits at the end of May.

All suitable labourers have been absorbed and lack of living accommodation prevents an influx of anything approaching the number of men who will be required in forthcoming building projects. The employment problem for 1947 will not be to secure jobs for men, but rather the increasingly difficult task of supplying men for growing industrial needs.

#### St. Catharines

With the exception of the usual industrial and inventory holiday periods, local industries have been working on a normal basis during the past month.

Iron and steel-using factories in the area report sufficient materials on hand to maintain the current high level of employment for some months to come.

Pulp and paper manufacturing, textiles, and clothing manufacturing recorded a high level of employment during the past month, with favourable prospects for the immediate future.

Fruit crops this year are expected to be above average, and the forthcoming heavy demand for pickers will be filled by students and part-time workers.

Current orders for both male and female workers exceed the available supply, with heavy labourers for foundries and forge shops particularly scarce. In the female labour field demand for general factory workers, domestics, and institutional workers is strong.

#### Sault Ste. Marie

As in other centres of basic steel production, the local steel plant is working at full capacity in an endeavour to meet the heavy demand for steel products. Similarly, the local pulp and paper company is extremely busy, in line with high Canadian pulp and paper production. The result is, of course, a high level of employment in this city, with extremely light unemployment amongst male workers. General prosperity is in evidence.

The comparison of wartime employment with the present level shows a slump since the war. At first glance, employment appears to be about five hundred workers short of the war-time peak. However, so far as male workers are concerned, employment is as high as during the war and the decline is largely due to the dismissal of many of the 450 women employed during the war to make up for the shortage of manpower. Employment now is 50 per cent above July 1, 1939.

Because of the shortage of male labour many of the local jobs as pulp cutters and extra gang railway maintenance workers are being filled by means of transfers-in from other points in the province. General labourers are being placed with local mines and the Algoma Steel Corporation. Extreme difficulty is being experienced in obtaining bricklayers for the reassembling of the No. 5 blast furnace at the steel plant.

### Sudbury

There is very little change to report concerning the International Nickel Company which, for months now, has had no success in obtaining men for heavy labour in local mines. The shortage of general labourers now has spread to other industry. This conditions may retard sawmill, railway maintenance, and construction work. There are unfilled vacancies for scores of labourers. There is a considerable backlog of construction work in the nickel district and labour will have to be recruited through other N.E.S. offices if the demand is to be met. International Nickel has embarked on an eleven million dollar construction program.

Other current news of importance to this locality concerns the possibility of a branch of McKinnon Industries Limited being built in Sudbury. The primary reason for this firm's interest in Sudbury is that female labour is available for their plant's operation, which would consist of assembling small electrical motors. If plant accommodation can be found, this industry will be founded here; initial employment would be from 75-100 girls.

### Toronto

Labour market conditions in the Toronto area have shown a marked improvement during the past year. Total reported employment is up seven per cent, the increase being more pronounced in non-manufacturing than in manufacturing.

Among the manufacturing industries, edible plant products, pulp and paper manufacturing and electrical apparatus manufacturing showed the greatest percentage increases. In the non-manufacturing field, the percentage gain in communications was 25.5, well above the average 10.7 per cent gain for total non-manufacturing.

Unplaced applicants at the beginning of June, 1947, numbered 5,700, less than one half the June 1, 1946, total of 14,400. Job openings now outnumber applicants by approximately four to one. Vacancies are available for almost every type of worker and unskilled workers are in particularly heavy demand.

Manufacturing as a whole maintained a high level of production during May, although recent recessions have been noted in furniture, building materials, and novelty leather goods because of lessened consumer demand.



### Welland

The month of May marked a further "tightening" of the Welland labour market. As at June 1, there were 618 vacancies for males, with male unplaced applicants numbering 108, of which 77 were over fifty years of age and therefore very difficult to place. Job openings for women totalled 101, while female applicants numbered 143. A breakdown of the latter shows that a large percentage of the female job seekers are married women, therefore unacceptable to most employers.

Meat packing plants, chemical products manufacturers and farm machinery manufacturers report a serious shortage of heavy labour. Orders have been placed in clearance throughout the Quebec and Ontario regions, but results have been disheartening. Lack of housing in Welland continues to hinder local employers in their attempts to bring in outside labour.

The majority of firms in the heavy iron and steel manufacturing category are operating at nearly full capacity. Only lack of labour and materials precludes further advances in employment and production.

### Windsor

The sharp drop in the number of unplaced applicants (4,000 in three months) was almost entirely due to expansion in the automobile industry. Employment at the Ford Motor Company has increased steadily since the first of the year. The present staff level at the Chrysler Corporation is well above that of January 1, although this company is still on a short work-week because of shortages of certain types of steel. Local feeder plants have also augmented their staffs of late, stepping up production of parts in line with expansion programs of their parent plants, Ford and Chrysler.

Construction work in the area is progressing favourably despite adverse weather conditions and labour disputes earlier in the month. On May 12 approximately 450 construction labourers went out on strike, demanding union recognition, higher wages and time-and-a-half for Saturdays. The labourers were supported by 1,800 building tradesmen whose refusal to cross picket lines brought construction work throughout the city to a virtual standstill. They returned to work May 23 when a ten-day truce was called, and final settlement was reached on June 3.

To date no agreement has been reached in the strike of 180 electricians who walked out on May 27. The men seek board and travelling expenses for work outside Windsor's one-fare bus zone.

There has been very little change in the number of female unplaced applicants during the past four months. However, employment opportunities for women will increase when canning operations commence, around the beginning of July.

## **PRAIRIE REGION**

Seasonal uptrend continues—Seasonal activity which began in April continued in May with a decrease of some 8,000 unplaced applicants.

The demand for farm labour has mounted. Seeding has been completed in most of the region, but crop development is about two weeks behind. In the eastern part of the region pulpwood cutting requires a



large number of men. Mining in the north and east is presenting a brisk demand for hard rock miners and development men. Construction work is well underway.

High costs hinder residential building—The construction industry already has run up against the inexorable fact that mounting prices limit consumption. Prospective builders, finding that costs are too high, postpone their need. It is in the residential field that a decline in projected construction is most noticeable. Industrial construction, upheld by greater capital resources, has been deterred to a less extent. Nevertheless, in spite of high costs, the volume of present work is so large that all available manpower will be utilized. At the moment, experienced construction labourers are in greatest demand, with large numbers of carpenters, bricklayers, stone masons, and structural steel workers also required.

#### Edmonton

In Edmonton, the trade and service industry is by far the largest employer of labour; the foodstuffs industry comes second, and transportation comes third, employing 2,032 workers at April 1, compared to 6,638 in retail wholesale trade. If employment in manufacturing plants processing agricultural produce is included with employment in non-manufacturing industry, about 80 per cent of total reported employment is represented.

There is little or no change to report in the employment level in the retail and wholesale trade as overall employment continues high and turnover very light.

Receipts at meat packing plants are at the lowest level since 1939; indications are that it will take two years to get hog production back to the level of market requirements. Many men are securing work in saw and planer mills in this locality, while many more are sent out on clearance orders to other districts.

During the month of May, 250 men were placed as extra-gang labourers with railways.

At present, coal mining is in the slack season. While there are plenty of jobs open in mining outside of the Edmonton district, most miners would rather wait until local mines increase production again. In the meantime, many of these men are engaged in alternative employment.

Considerable exploration and development work is being carried on in the Edmonton district in the search for new oil fields. Reports indicate that the Leduc field, about twenty miles south of Edmonton, will be a worthwhile producer. Considerable drilling is also taking place north and east of the city. Results are as yet unknown.

#### Fort William - Port Arthur

The strongly seasonal nature of most industries in this area is very clear when one considers that unplaced applicants decreased from 2,077 at March 1, to 1,097 at May 29 - a decrease of 46 per cent in three months. Male unplaced applicants decreased 56 per cent and female applicants by 36 per cent during the same period because of much heavier demand for male labour.

Employment conditions now are remarkably good; the number registered for employment is lower now than at any time since the war. In marked contrast to the 651 male applicants are the 3,663 job openings available. About 2,400 of these vacancies are for loggers, and the balance calls for construction workers and various other tradesmen.

It is reported that 200 of the 529 men registered at Port Arthur at May 14, were either too old or physically unfit to fill the positions available. A similar ratio applied to male applicants in the whole area would indicate that at May 29, about 416 of the 1,097 applicants were too old or unfit. Thus a large labour shortage now exists with few suitable applicants available.

Construction progress is retarded by a strike of carpenters which started on May 19, and is still in progress. Carpenters are demanding \$1.25 an hour and contractors so far have offered them \$1.15 per hour.

Experienced miners and muckers are needed by gold mines in the Beardmore, Little Long Lac, Central Patricia and Pickle Crow mining areas, with few applicants available. Steep Rock Iron Mines have started shipping ore through Port Arthur and the objective this year is for 1,250,000 tons compared to 993,798 for 1946.

The Great Lakes Lumber and Shipping saw mill has recently increased their labour force by 200 men and orders now are filed for another hundred.

### Winnipeg

In 1942-43 Manitoba ranked as the sixth province in Canada as regards the gross value of agricultural production per capita, and the gross value of agricultural and manufactured production combined. Insofar as the gross value of manufactured goods per capita in 1942-43 was concerned, however, Manitoba ranked fourth, leading the other prairie provinces by a wide margin, being led only by Ontario, Quebec, and British Columbia.

From 1942 to 1944 the gross value of manufactured production in Manitoba increased by 36 per cent. In comparison, the gain for Winnipeg during the same three years was 27 per cent. In 1942 the gross value of manufactured production in this city reached 60 per cent of the total value for the whole province. By 1944 this percentage dropped slightly to 56 per cent as manufacturing industry spread throughout other urban centres in the province.

A comparison of reported employment in Winnipeg at April 1, from 1942 to 1947, shows that manufacturing employment increased continuously from April 1, 1942 to April 1, 1944 - peak employment in both manufacturing and total employment was reached in late 1943-44. From April 1, 1944 through 1945 and 1946 employment dropped in manufacturing - from 37,699 at April 1, 1944 to 31,385 at April 1, 1946. However, from April 1, 1946 to April 1, 1947 manufacturing employment again showed a gain amounting to some 1,250 workers. The net increase in reported manufacturing employment from 1942 to 1947 was some 780 workers, while the net loss from the wartime peak was about 5,000 workers.

A comparison of total employment from April 1, 1942 to April 1, 1947 shows a continuous gain in overall reported employment for those five years with the exception of a very small decline in total reported employment at April 1, 1945 when manufacturing employment dropped. In actual figures, total reported employment in Winnipeg has increased by some 11,450 employees from April 1, 1942 to April 1, 1947.



This large increase in total reported employment is attributable to non-manufacturing industry. From April 1, 1942 to April 1, 1947, transportation registered a 50 per cent gain in reported employment, construction 70 per cent, services 92 per cent, and retail and wholesale trade a 42 per cent gain. These four industries accounted for 88 per cent of the 11,450 gain in the number in reported employment from 1942 to 1947.

## PACIFIC REGION

The expansion of employment in the primary industries and in construction reflected in the May decrease in unplaced applicants. Increasing labour shortages were apparent in these industries, but the continued heavy concentration of the unemployed in the urban areas of Vancouver, New Westminster and Victoria was evidence of the disparity between the character and location of the labour required and the character and location of the labour available.

No agreement yet in logging industry—Negotiations between the I.W.A. and the operators proceeded during May with no agreement reached on the new contract. Negotiations were halted towards the end of May to allow the union to poll its members on the operators' offer.

The uncertainty about the outcome of the negotiations has affected actual operations. An exodus of men from the industry has been reported from camps on Vancouver Island. Further, men are showing reluctance to accept jobs until they are sure that the strike threat is remote. In addition, some temporary closures of camps in the coastal region has taken place because of low humidity.

Acute shortage of skilled miners—Gold quartz mining is urgently in need of several hundred experienced men. It is reported that no crew additions of any importance have been registered by the majority of firms for some time past. Base metal mining is, at the moment, also faced with the problem of obtaining labour. The placing of a number of university students in the mining industry has been a temporary help, but does nothing to solve the real problem of long-standing labour shortage.

Negotiations on a new union contract between Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. and the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers proceeded quietly, with agreement being reached on a 12½ cents interim adjustment payable in addition to basic hourly rates, revision of hourly rates in various categories, and a 40 to 42 hour week.

Labour requirements in manufacturing low—Labour needs in manufacturing are not extensive. In sawmills, labour turnover is light and vacancies are easily filled, except for certain skilled occupations. The shipbuilding industry continues to be hampered by material shortages. General engineering plants are active on deferred maintenance and machinery replacements, and there are a few orders for skilled machinists, but moulders and core makers now are becoming available, indicating a decline in foundry work.



### Vancouver

In 1946 total export tonnage of cargoes in foreign trade totalled 2,429,667 tons, showing a 9 per cent increase in tonnage compared to 1939. Import tonnage in 1946 totalled 1,637,105 tons, showing a 9 per cent increase in tonnage compared to 1939. In a comparison of tons of cargo loaded and unloaded in 1938-39, Vancouver handled an average of 13 per cent of the total tonnage for all Canada. During the war years because much of the exports were going to the European war zone, the proportion of tonnage loaded and unloaded in Vancouver fell (for example to 6 per cent of total Canadian tonnage in 1945.) The port of Vancouver showed an upward trend in the tonnage of foreign trade handled during the year 1946 and has probably climbed back up to one of the busiest seaports in Canada, being led only by Montreal.

A remarkable drop has occurred in the number of unplaced applicants since March 1, when registered job seekers numbered 19,246 compared to 11,173 at May 29. A labour shortage is reported in many trades. From eight to ten thousand persons now are being placed in employment each month. There is a heavy turnover, however, which is caused by seasonal work and the short duration of many jobs.

There is a heavy demand for both skilled and unskilled workers in the mining field with few workers available. There is a similar quantitative shortage of workers in the construction industry. Logging is having one of the busiest seasons on record but, at the same time, men are reluctant to take jobs in distant camps because of a strike threat. In short, there is work for physically fit labourers, carpenters, hard rock miners, linesmen, for men in the "trowel trades" and experienced loggers. A shortage of skilled and unskilled workers in these trades has built up a large number of job vacancies which is a handicap to the industries involved.

Small boatbuilding firms have entered their seasonal rush period and shipyards in general show increased production.

# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

## A Key to the Area Tables

The area tables present statistical data on the labour market in 38 selected areas. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in each area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

The areas are classified according to the number of unplaced applicants registered with the local National Employment Service office. The classification is based on a ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 wage and salary workers at work.

An "unplaced applicant" at any particular moment is a person who is registered at an office of the National Employment Service who has either not been placed in a job by the employment service or for whom the employment service has had no notification of his obtaining a job on his own. It is obvious, therefore, that the number of unplaced applicants are not indicative of the total volume of unemployment in any area. In the first place, not all workers who are seeking jobs will register with N.E.S. It is probable that most of those covered by unemployment insurance will do so in order to collect unemployment insurance benefits if their period of unemployment is sufficiently long. But many workers, do not come within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Act. Second, some workers who register with N.E.S. may be wanting merely to change jobs. At the time of registration, therefore, these workers would be already employed. Third, employment service regulations provide that when a worker registers for a job another contact need not necessarily be made with him by the employment service until 30 days have passed. If the worker obtains a job on his own during this period, the employment service may not be notified of this. In other words a worker may still be counted as an unplaced applicant despite the fact that he now has a job. Finally, a worker may register for work at more than one local employment office. When this occurs there is the possibility that the same person may be counted twice as an unplaced applicant.

These qualifications in the meaning of the term "unplaced applicant" should be clearly borne in mind by any person who makes use of the term. They are due to the fact that the principal function of the National Employment Service is to match jobs to workers, not to collect statistics. But they do not render such statistics useless. At present, there is no statistical information available on the total volume of unemployment by area. This being the case, the number of unplaced workers registered with a local N.E.S. office is a very important fact to consider when evaluating labour market conditions in a particular area. It is in this spirit that figures on unplaced applicants are presented in the following tables.

In order to ascertain the relative level of unplaced applicants in various local office areas, this figure has been related to an estimate of the total number of wage and salary workers at work in each area. In other words, the number of unplaced applicants is compared with the size of the particular area as measured by the number of wage and salary workers at work.

In addition these ratios have been consolidated into four groups denoting four different general labour market situations:

Group I—Areas in which there are more than 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the Mid-Thirties.

Group II—Areas in which there are between 150 and 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group is characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III—Areas in which there are from 50 to 150 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV—Areas in which there are under 50 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Favourable, in the sense that it is comparable to conditions during the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be clearly understood that the above ratio is only a general method of classifying labour market conditions as they are pictured by the local N.E.S. office. The ratio attempts to do no more than that. It attempts to do just that because it is felt that labour market conditions in a particular local employment service office are an important fact in the over-all employment situation.

The area tables present additional material relative to the current demand - supply picture. Definitions of some of the terms used are given below:

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities insofar as employers do not report vacancies to the employment service. "Jobs available during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but should indicate the trend of labour demand in comparison with figures for previous periods.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the employment service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer to N.E.S.

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Note: Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.  
Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.  
Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Pointe-aux-Trembles,  
St. Paul l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.  
Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.  
Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North  
Sydney, Sydney Mines.  
Calgary includes: Black Diamond.



# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT MAY 29, 1947

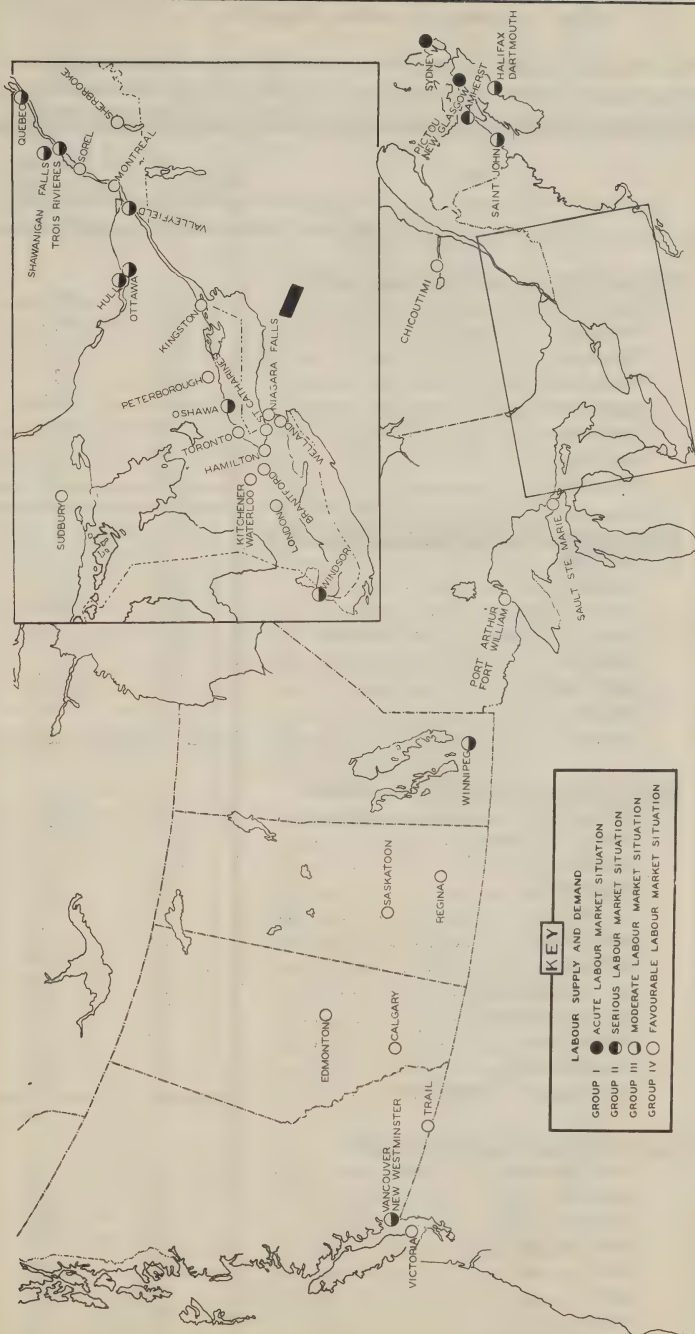


Table I—Index of Areas Analyzed in this Section

Note: The thirty-eight areas below are arranged according to the number of unplaced applicants in each as at May 29, in descending order. Comparable ratings are also given for two previous selected dates.

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		May 1, 1947	May 29, 1947	May 30 1946
	<u>Population of 100,000 and over</u>			
64	Quebec.....	II	III	III
68	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
71	Windsor.....	III	III	III
71	Winnipeg.....	III	III	III
73	Vancouver.....	III	III	III
66	Hamilton.....	IV	IV	III
63	Montreal.....	IV	IV	III
70	Toronto.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 50,000 to 100,000</u>			
62	Sydney.....	I	I	II
61	Halifax.....	III	III	III
62	Saint John.....	III	III	III
66	Fort William - Port Arthur...	III	IV	III
72	Calgary.....	III	IV	III
72	Edmonton.....	III	IV	III
71	Regina.....	III	IV	IV
67	London.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 25,000 to 50,000</u>			
63	Hull.....	II	III	III
65	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
68	Oshawa.....	III	III	II
67	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
73	Victoria.....	IV	IV	III
72	Saskatoon.....	IV	IV	IV
70	Sudbury.....	IV	IV	III
69	St. Catharines.....	IV	IV	III
69	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
66	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
64	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
67	Kitchener - Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of under 25,000</u>			
62	New Glasgow - Pictou.....	I	I	II
61	Amherst.....	II	II	II
65	Valleyfield.....	III	III	III
64	Shawinigan Falls.....	III	III	III
63	Chicoutimi.....	III	IV	III
65	Sorel.....	IV	IV	II
70	Welland.....	IV	IV	III
73	Trail.....	IV	IV	IV
69	Sault Ste Marie.....	IV	IV	IV
68	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	IV





Item	New Glasgow and Pictou			Sydney			Saint John		
	May(X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May(X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May(X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)....	(a) 608	705	254	(a) 611	663	189	63	53	77
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	129	88	92	101	151	641	694	562	734
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	543	385	777	658	464	1,412	964	1,296	1,257
3. Total jobs available during month.....	672	473	869	759	615	2,053	1,658	1,858	1,991
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	512	299	760	608	428	1,163	629	752	611
% casual placements.....	11.1	12.4	10.1	19.2	22.2	6.9	16.4	12.5	3.8
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	110	129	59	70	101	469	646	694	901
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	2,751	2,933	2,843	5,897	5,946	5,222	1,581	2,073	2,286
% female.....	10.3	9.4	9.2	10.3	10.6	11.4	9.5	8.2	5.1
% veterans.....	48.5	42.1	41.1	45.8	45.5	50.8	58.8	47.8	57.9
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more....	44.2	37.5	36.3	42.8	42.0	45.1	51.0	38.4	40.7
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	6.1	5.6	2.8	6.8	6.2	7.8	13.0	9.4	18.0
% service & other.....	7.4	7.2	8.4	11.8	12.1	6.6	24.2	32.4	9.3
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	48.5	48.9	10.3	40.3	40.4	39.5	32.1	29.4	35.1
% unskilled.....	38.0	38.3	78.5	41.1	41.3	46.1	30.7	28.8	37.6
2. Applicants registered during month.....	799	676	992	1,416	1,585	1,833	1,764	1,354	1,677
3. Total workers available during month.....	3,550	3,609	3,835	7,313	7,531	7,055	3,345	3,427	3,963
% referred.....	24.7	13.7	20.1	16.9	10.5	18.7	27.1	32.2	25.7
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	2,370	2,751	2,650	5,434	5,897	4,559	1,875	1,581	2,276
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	-	3,900	7,800	-	8,900	19,500	-	29,900	27,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.86	29.45
X Figures subject to revision									

(a) The coal mining strike caused a drop in employment of 1,200 in New Glasgow - Pictou, and 10,000 in Sydney. The striking miners are not counted as unemployed.

Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	37	57	121	140	171	105	23	31	60
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	564	426	1,327	268	273	486	13,694	14,702	19,791
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	241	618	863	401	342	405	15,863	14,104	16,349
3. Total jobs available during month.....	805	1,044	2,190	669	615	891	29,557	28,806	36,140
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	164	123	154	163	145	144	5,871	5,140	3,399
% casual placements.....	-	-	-	-	1.4	-	10.4	14.2	1.7
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	487	564	1,378	304	268	458	14,504	13,694	22,582
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	514	550	2,803	1,741	1,889	1,375	15,857	17,135	35,873
% female.....	23.2	22.7	10.6	36.1	29.5	11.9	14.0	11.8	17.7
% veterans.....	5.4	6.2	8.7	24.8	25.7	38.8	24.8	22.8	16.6
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more..	4.9	4.9	6.4	23.8	25.4	29.4	14.8	13.3	12.0
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	12.4	9.0	8.5	10.7	10.9	12.6	22.0	19.0	18.6
% service & other.....	6.6	6.6	3.1	7.0	8.0	7.4	16.3	14.9	6.8
% skilled & semiskilled.....	41.8	44.2	39.1	36.7	39.1	38.2	30.1	32.6	28.9
% unskilled.....	39.2	40.2	49.3	45.6	42.0	41.8	31.6	33.5	45.7
2. Applicants registered during month.....	309	413	852	504	564	498	11,375	13,501	14,280
3. Total workers available during month...	823	963	3,655	2,245	2,453	1,875	27,232	30,636	50,153
% referred.....	24.3	15.7	7.4	12.9	10.3	10.8	45.6	34.5	23.6
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	329	514	1,566	1,433	1,741	1,228	12,339	15,857	31,890
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	9,000	6,100	-	10,200	10,500	-	486,900	460,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34.57	31.39

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	130	157	149	66	77	90	10	18	26
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	1,064	1,157	1,631	65	94	17	256	207	495
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,901	1,793	3,053	274	298	140	618	563	925
3. Total jobs available during month.....	2,965	2,950	4,684	339	392	157	874	770	1,420
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	1,128	862	983	179	265	101	351	329	606
% casual placements.....	0.2	-	0.1	-	-	-	13.1	18.8	8.1
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	1,116	1,064	1,576	49	65	21	338	256	509
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	10,324	11,202	14,922	840	963	1,519	365	456	545
% female.....	26.5	27.3	32.7	39.5	32.2	21.1	17.3	14.0	15.2
% veterans.....	17.9	17.3	15.8	3.1	3.9	6.1	26.0	21.9	34.9
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	15.5	14.4	12.9	2.5	3.4	3.0	13.9	16.0	20.4
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	12.2	10.9	12.6	4.7	4.6	3.3	8.9	7.1	14.5
% service & other.....	10.1	11.2	6.0	6.1	5.8	1.9	19.5	13.3	7.8
% skilled & semiskilled.....	45.8	44.1	36.4	40.0	34.9	30.5	36.1	39.0	25.3
% unskilled.....	31.9	33.8	45.0	49.2	54.7	64.3	35.5	40.6	52.4
2. Applicants registered during month.....	3,107	3,055	3,938	429	497	321	634	513	1,077
3. Total workers available during month.....	13,431	14,257	18,860	1,269	1,460	1,840	999	969	1,622
% referred.....	16.4	14.2	10.9	18.4	18.6	5.8	70.7	54.9	50.2
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	8,543	10,324	13,218	720	840	1,056	207	365	714
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	-	65,800	58,900	-	10,900	10,700	-	20,000	19,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	29.69	27.10	-	-	-	-	29.43	26.81

X Figures subject to revision.





Item	Brantford			Ft. William & Pt. Arthur			Hamilton		
	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed).....	13	15	29	49	73	136	27	28	61
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	811	719	753	2,968	2,328	3,110	3,385	2,608	2,929
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,071	1,039	975	4,795	2,876	4,440	3,845	4,241	3,388
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,882	1,758	1,728	7,763	5,204	7,550	7,230	6,849	6,317
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	397	388	425	1,200	1,042	1,420	2,023	1,951	1,556
% casual placements.....	3.3	5.9	6.1	0.2	3.3	0.4	17.2	11.0	13.0
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	871	811	635	3,663	2,968	4,154	3,417	3,385	2,254
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	257	259	684	1,627	1,801	4,331	2,499	3,418	6,216
% female.....	25.3	25.1	40.8	33.1	29.9	31.6	24.6	18.1	22.1
% veterans.....	17.5	32.8	25.6	23.5	22.5	26.3	35.3	33.3	25.8
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	11.3	13.5	18.3	10.0	10.7	13.9	25.3	17.2	21.7
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	10.9	13.4	11.9	9.7	7.4	10.1	15.8	10.8	17.2
% service & other.....	12.0	15.5	8.9	8.9	10.1	7.4	15.1	11.5	7.6
% skilled & semiskilled.....	28.1	26.8	26.9	32.2	36.0	44.7	30.2	37.1	42.0
% unskilled.....	49.0	44.3	52.3	49.2	46.5	37.8	38.9	40.6	33.2
2. Applicants registered during month.....	732	440	716	1,710	1,702	2,078	3,782	3,494	3,762
3. Total workers available during month.....	989	699	1,400	3,337	3,503	6,409	6,281	6,912	9,978
% referred.....	48.7	60.1	42.6	43.6	42.0	24.9	63.9	61.9	38.5
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	225	257	518	1,097	1,627	3,492	2,313	2,499	5,337
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month....	-	17,600	16,400	-	22,400	22,200	-	85,900	82,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ....	-	-	-	-	37.71	34.19	-	36.39	32.35

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Kingston			Kitchener-Waterloo			London		
	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	40	42	35	4	4	6	18	22	29
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	258	359	364	1,422	1,279	1,776	2,501	1,639	2,391
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	611	685	1,197	1,452	1,166	1,778	2,920	2,811	4,404
3. Total jobs available during month.....	869	1,044	1,561	2,874	2,445	3,554	5,421	4,450	6,795
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	406	433	666	363	324	432	1,145	1,074	1,455
% casual placements.....	3.9	1.6	=	=	0.3	1.4	14.8	14.6	19.7
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	211	283	378	1,798	1,422	1,675	2,640	2,501	2,603
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	786	789	780	164	148	163	761	955	1,100
% female.....	20.5	21.7	20.0	7.9	12.2	11.0	29.0	21.0	14.8
% veterans.....	46.1	39.2	37.8	32.9	33.1	41.7	36.0	35.6	42.0
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more..	35.0	33.6	32.4	12.2	7.4	6.1	17.7	17.9	25.5
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical, & sales....	13.1	11.3	9.8	26.5	24.6	22.1	22.0	21.6	21.8
% service & other.....	9.0	10.4	8.8	6.6	10.8	6.2	19.3	17.4	8.3
% skilled & semiskilled.....	34.2	30.6	33.7	15.2	20.0	26.9	19.4	21.5	17.2
% unskilled.....	43.7	47.7	47.7	51.7	44.6	44.8	39.3	39.5	52.7
2. Applicants registered during month.....	861	932	954	440	415	583	1,496	1,546	1,945
3. Total workers available during month...	1,647	1,721	1,734	604	563	746	2,257	2,501	3,045
% referred.....	44.9	41.9	65.5	98.5	95.4	100.0	86.6	78.8	77.6
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	748	786	642	150	164	203	607	761	921
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	18,700	17,300	-	38,100	35,800	-	34,500	30,700
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	34.50	30.13	-	32.83	30.48

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)....	19	23	31	86	84	190	80	88	63
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	349	190	358	598	378	568	1,355	1,105	2,107
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	481	682	754	827	783	730	2,574	1,857	2,343
3. Total jobs available during month.....	830	872	1,112	1,425	1,161	1,298	3,929	2,962	4,450
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	264	291	326	504	369	351	888	794	1,059
% casual placements.....	3.0	2.7	10.7	3.2	4.3	1.1	6.2	-	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	378	349	427	575	598	400	1,597	1,355	1,685
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	390	519	687	1,648	1,913	5,091	5,351	5,259	3,983
% female.....	27.4	24.3	24.6	48.1	41.0	32.7	52.5	47.1	23.5
% veterans.....	24.6	23.9	32.3	25.7	20.4	26.8	24.2	24.1	44.6
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more....	18.2	12.1	26.3	18.1	12.5	21.4	19.1	17.5	32.8
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	13.8	10.4	12.4	8.4	8.0	6.3	34.1	28.8	29.6
% service & other.....	23.7	21.1	12.7	7.9	5.8	2.9	9.1	8.9	6.2
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	26.1	33.9	39.4	24.9	31.4	36.3	22.3	23.9	24.0
% unskilled.....	36.4	34.6	35.5	58.8	54.8	54.5	34.5	38.4	40.2
2. Applicants registered during month.....	412	383	465	1,187	916	888	2,365	2,925	2,866
3. Total workers available during month.....	802	902	1,152	2,835	2,829	5,979	7,716	8,184	6,849
% referred.....	54.7	58.9	44.6	31.3	31.6	11.7	27.1	18.4	33.9
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	334	390	499	1,697	1,648	3,854	4,827	5,351	3,985
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	-	17,200	15,500	-	19,700	16,400	-	60,600	58,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31.11	27.87

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Sudbury			Toronto			Welland		
	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (x) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	23	32	60	13	15	35	26	41	106
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	1,272	820	693	24,525	20,216	18,511	673	279	466
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,616	1,475	2,589	24,041	24,486	25,708	754	977	1,111
3. Total jobs available during month.....	2,888	2,295	3,282	48,566	44,702	44,219	1,427	1,256	1,577
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	675	643	1,160	7,735	6,963	9,103	321	313	543
% casual placements.....	8.4	7.5	4.4	13.1	11.2	6.5	-	1.3	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	1,654	1,272	1,020	25,544	24,525	20,666	719	673	579
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	1,045	1,128	2,076	6,641	7,665	16,116	395	552	1,360
% female.....	26.4	22.3	30.8	11.3	9.0	8.1	50.9	47.3	54.0
% veterans.....	29.9	22.2	19.9	42.6	37.8	51.9	11.4	16.1	13.7
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	17.4	12.0	14.5	21.6	21.4	37.3	7.2	11.8	8.1
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	7.8	7.6	8.8	25.8	25.8	30.6	12.4	8.4	9.1
% service & other.....	9.7	8.3	4.8	15.9	15.9	8.2	11.8	11.4	3.4
% skilled & semiskilled.....	39.3	38.1	47.3	30.0	30.0	30.4	25.8	26.5	45.5
% unskilled.....	43.2	46.0	39.1	28.3	28.3	30.8	50.0	53.7	42.0
2. Applicants registered during month.....	1,181	1,201	1,522	11,114	10,593	14,359	449	505	737
3. Total workers available during month.....	2,226	2,329	3,598	17,755	18,258	30,475	844	1,057	2,597
% referred.....	52.4	46.6	43.8	72.2	63.3	47.6	59.6	62.6	33.5
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	768	1,045	1,646	5,688	6,641	14,430	249	395	1,495
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	32,900	25,900	-	401,800	378,200	-	9,700	9,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "....	-	-	-	-	36.07	32.63	-	-	-

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed.....)	63	75	110	62	72	91	25	58	45
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	567	341	1,129	3,151	3,111	3,797	964	735	1,154
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	2,274	3,043	1,836	6,193	5,722	6,694	2,113	2,208	1,990
3. Total jobs available during month.....	2,841	3,384	2,955	9,344	8,833	10,491	3,077	2,943	3,144
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	1,370	2,124	1,543	3,955	3,742	4,063	1,333	1,396	1,425
% casual placements.....	19.9	12.0	11.0	38.2	34.6	31.3	26.1	28.5	33.7
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	486	567	419	3,308	3,151	3,580	986	964	863
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	3,922	5,137	6,199	10,099	11,661	13,831	1,821	2,510	2,098
% female.....	44.0	36.5	33.7	27.4	20.9	17.8	20.3	16.7	19.8
% veterans.....	24.3	27.7	27.6	40.4	38.6	47.6	47.9	47.2	52.8
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	18.7	23.7	23.7	27.1	24.5	40.3	45.7	43.3	49.7
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	13.7	14.1	12.2	20.1	15.9	21.7	18.3	14.8	21.3
% service & other.....	12.3	12.6	6.7	12.2	12.5	9.9	13.7	14.4	14.8
% skilled & semi skilled.....	43.4	45.1	33.3	35.2	35.3	31.8	31.1	36.6	35.1
% unskilled.....	30.6	28.2	47.8	32.5	36.3	36.3	36.9	34.2	28.8
2. Applicants registered during month.....	2,616	3,269	4,742	8,169	7,398	8,278	1,717	2,191	2,499
3. Total workers available during month.....	6,538	8,406	10,941	18,268	19,059	22,109	3,538	4,701	4,597
% referred.....	35.6	42.6	19.6	34.1	32.3	30.3	62.9	51.6	46.7
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	3,293	3,922	6,783	8,687	10,099	12,932	769	1,821	1,396
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	52,600	54,800	-	137,400	131,000	-	31,300	29,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ".....	-	43.08	40.66	-	32.83	30.19	-	31.68	28.83

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May (X) 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	35	46	37	48	58	70	35	53	54
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	1,058	861	1,263	1,191	845	1,419	1,411	755	2,406
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,090	1,773	1,391	3,149	3,288	3,078	3,861	3,609	4,351
3. Total jobs available during month.....	2,148	2,554	2,654	4,340	4,133	4,497	5,272	4,364	6,757
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	638	778	883	2,037	2,187	1,947	2,861	2,019	2,634
% casual placements.....	21.9	15.9	18.3	19.2	15.0	19.2	19.1	17.7	22.5
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	644	1,058	998	1,258	1,191	1,417	1,457	1,411	1,782
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	1,880	2,193	1,989	2,779	3,881	4,016	3,578	4,463	5,084
% female.....	31.2	25.4	18.4	24.5	20.1	16.1	16.1	15.1	15.1
% veterans.....	37.0	36.5	50.3	49.0	44.0	48.1	45.8	43.0	55.1
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more..	31.2	25.4	41.0	35.8	31.4	34.4	34.2	27.3	31.8
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical, & sales....	17.5	15.0	15.7	23.8	18.7	17.1	16.0	14.6	15.1
% service & other.....	22.7	24.5	13.2	30.0	25.7	12.8	20.6	19.3	18.5
% skilled & semiskilled.....	38.2	41.1	27.9	36.2	44.2	33.9	35.6	42.0	30.2
% unskilled.....	21.6	19.4	43.2	10.0	11.4	36.2	27.8	24.1	36.2
2. Applicants registered during month.....	1,436	1,582	1,822	2,877	2,930	3,228	4,155	3,840	4,185
3. Total workers available during month...	3,316	3,775	3,811	5,556	6,811	7,244	7,733	8,303	9,269
% referred.....	35.0	34.2	34.6	61.3	45.9	35.6	54.8	41.1	39.7
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	1,443	1,880	1,606	2,374	2,779	3,293	2,389	3,578	3,882
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	-	41,000	41,500	-	48,300	45,700	-	67,600	67,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " " " " "	-	31.15	27.95	-	34.05	31.97	-	32.52	30.16

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Trail			Vancouver			Victoria		
	May X 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May X 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946	May X 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	23	28	45	60	64	96	35	43	56
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	188	159	113	4,271	3,975	5,205	840	819	1,232
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	294	254	363	10,812	12,042	11,045	1,304	1,509	2,121
3. Total jobs available during month.....	482	413	476	15,083	16,017	16,250	2,144	2,328	3,353
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	370	186	288	5,009	5,141	4,781	788	805	1,386
% casual placements.....	-	-	-	18.2	17.5	18.7	14.7	11.8	13.1
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	87	188	164	4,857	4,271	4,442	693	840	967
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month....	257	372	537	13,080	15,465	22,106	1,990	2,212	2,638
% female.....	47.9	40.9	54.4	25.8	24.0	18.4	25.4	27.2	16.9
% veterans.....	23.7	22.6	6.3	36.0	35.3	33.2	42.2	33.6	50.0
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more..	12.8	14.0	4.1	28.0	26.0	24.4	29.8	22.0	31.0
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	4.5	4.1	2.4	20.1	16.9	15.1	17.8	18.1	23.9
% service & other.....	9.0	10.5	8.2	13.9	14.6	9.6	13.3	13.7	9.7
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	32.8	34.5	28.2	28.4	30.7	40.7	26.1	27.1	25.4
% unskilled.....	53.7	50.9	61.2	37.6	37.8	34.6	42.8	41.1	41.0
2. Applicants registered during month.....	365	211	329	12,085	11,741	13,277	1,492	1,526	2,440
3. Total workers available during month....	622	583	866	25,165	27,206	35,383	3,482	3,738	5,078
% referred.....	51.8	35.7	37.6	35.6	32.6	22.5	36.8	34.1	31.5
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	213	257	396	12,520	13,080	20,713	1,632	1,990	2,919
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	9,300	8,400	-	199,700	177,100	-	46,700	44,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	35.82	32.80	-	34.40	31.63

X Figures subject to revision











# Canadian

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# LABOUR MARKET

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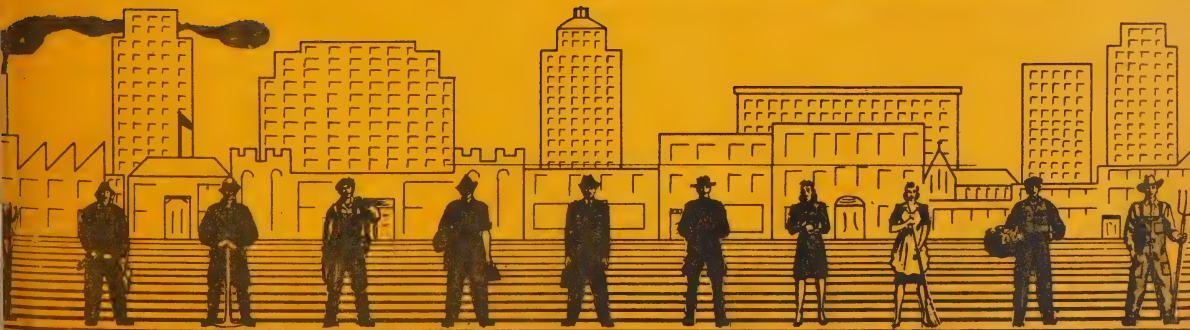
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**JULY  
1947**

**SPECIAL ARTICLE THIS MONTH.....**

**THE PROBLEM OF THE  
UNSKILLED OLDER WORKER**





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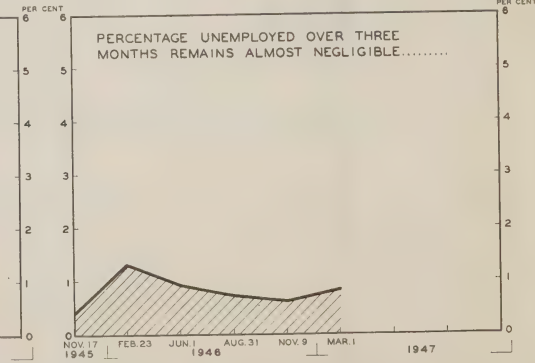
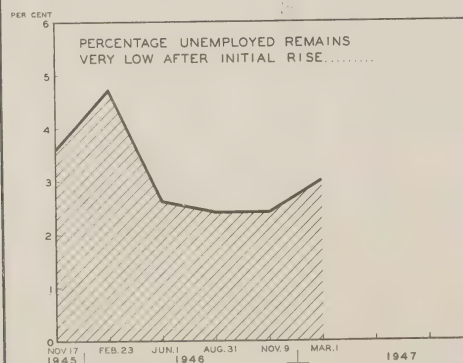
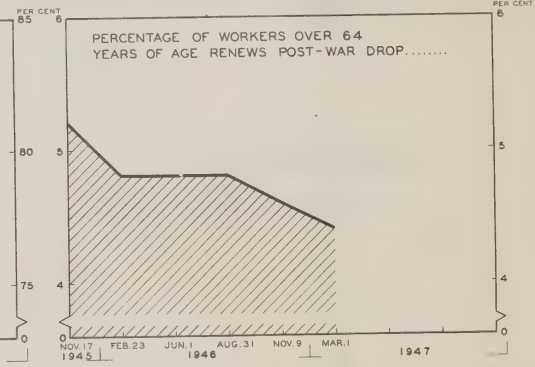
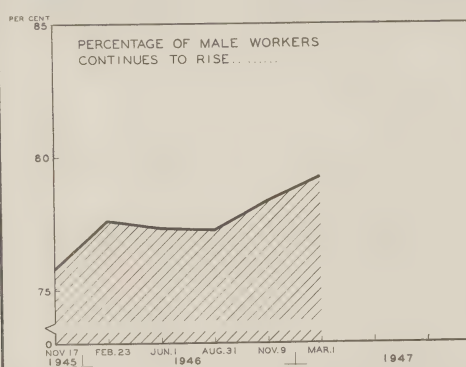
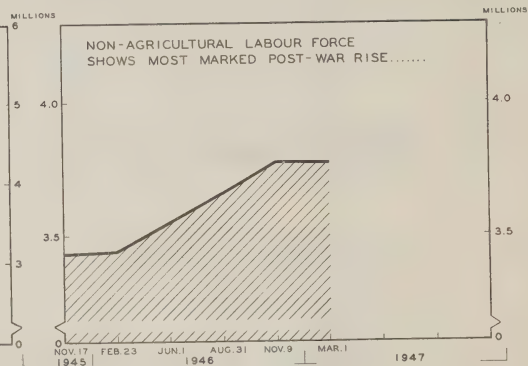
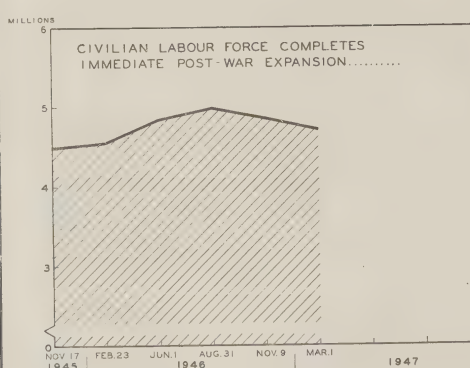
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# THE LABOUR FORCE.....



# THE LABOUR MARKET IN BRIEF....

## Employment

Although the index of industrial employment declined from April to May, this was chiefly because of the seasonal drop in logging activity. It is probable that total employment in all industries, including agriculture and all branches of construction, increased during this period or at least held its own, in line with the normal seasonal trend. Bad weather was, however, a restricting factor. In June and July, employment expanded further, by all indications, and seasonal activity plus an improved material supply situation has resulted in great competition for labour.

## Unplaced Applicants

Unplaced applicants decreased sharply to number 107,000 at July 17. This was 28,000 below the lowest point recorded during all of 1946,\* and 58,000 below the level of one year ago. The general shortage of labour will probably grow even more acute during the next few months, since peak employment will not be reached until October.

## Earnings

Average hours worked in manufacturing industries remained at 43.2 for May 1, but an increase in hourly earnings brought average weekly wages to \$33.83, against \$33.52 at April 1; however, the rising cost of living offset the advance in wages, and "real" wages<sup>1</sup> dropped for the second consecutive month.

## Strikes and Lockouts

The time lost through strikes in June was lower by 200,000 man-days from the May level. Of the 166,000 man-days lost, the coal strike accounted for 130,000. Since it ended early in June, these figures emphasize the relative calm in industrial relations especially when compared with the 365,000 days lost in May and the 934,000 in June 1946.

Among current disputes are those in the textile industry, in furniture manufacturing and in metal working.

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<sup>1</sup> Computed by Research and Statistics Br., Dept. of Labour.





# THE MANPOWER PICTURE

## LABOUR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS.....

Industrial unrest during 1946, one stormiest year on record, reached a peak one year ago. It is pertinent at this time, therefore, to examine the course of 1947 industrial relations and to evaluate the respective positions of labour and management in the light of current economic conditions.

### The 1947 Strike Picture

In marked contrast to 1946 negotiations, the general tendency this year has been for production to continue without interruption while management and organized labour negotiate the renewal of expiring collective agreements. The outstanding examples of this have been, of course, the recent settlements in the logging and rubber industries (both were involved in major disputes last year), in the B.C. base metal industry, and in the automobile<sup>(1)</sup> and electrical industries of Ontario. These settlements are expected to set a pattern in their respective fields.

Strike statistics for the first half of 1947 show a favourable situation this year in comparison with the same period in 1946, but the absence of serious trouble in 1947 is even more marked when it is realized that over 86 per cent of the 1947 strike loss in man-working days was due to one dispute alone--the Maritime coal strike, and, although prolonged and costly, its repercussions were localized. It is reasonable to emphasize that this dispute does not reflect the general temper of 1947 negotiations, since the relations between the major company involved and its workers are certainly not typical of those in industry in general.

Apart from the coal strike, the 1947 January-June loss has been small in comparison with that during the same period of 1946 - 191,935 to 1,622,745 man-working days; 30,361 to 94,011 workers. The coal strike added 1,310,000 man-days, 15,000 workers to the 1947 account.

There is another major difference between the 1947 picture and conditions a year ago. In June 1947, the coal strike had ended and the general situation was showing marked improvement, while a year ago a co-ordinated strike campaign was well underway and rapidly tying up production in key industries. (Chart 1).

The relatively few strikes during 1947 are, inversely, indicative of the many peaceful wage settlements negotiated to date. The less rigid positions taken by management and labour during the current round of negotiations are in sharp contrast to the situation last year. The firm stands taken by both groups in 1946 were related to the economic conditions peculiar to 1946; similarly, this year's more flexible approach to negotiations reflects the changed conditions of 1947. A brief review of the relative positions of management and labour a year ago will help to explain the development of current trends.

(1) Wildcat strike.

### The Situation in 1946

During the war, organized labour grew in strength. The end of the war brought to the fore the major test of its future position in the post-war economy. A surplus of labour was expected, after six years of wartime scarcity; the drop in overtime work, particularly in heavy industries, would cause a drop in take-home pay; a rising cost-of-living might threaten to depress real wages.

To counteract these developments, union policy advocated the 40-hour week with the object of maintaining full employment, and the maintenance of take-home pay at the wartime level in order to protect the standard of living of the individual worker. This involved demands for considerably higher wage rates, especially in view of the fact that hours of work during the war in some cases ranged upward from 48 to 52 hours per week, with overtime pay for part of this period.

In total manufacturing, as shown in Table I, there was a reduction in average weekly hours worked from 46.3 at December 1, 1944, to 44.1 at February 1, 1946; in the same period, average hourly earnings declined from 70.5 cents to 68.1 cents and average weekly wages from \$32.64 to \$30.03.

These figures for total manufacturing were influenced by the post-war shift from heavy to light manufacturing industries; wage rates are generally lower in the latter than in the former and the hours somewhat shorter. Naturally the reconversion period affected different industries in a different manner, as Table I demonstrates.

These figures do indicate a trend toward reduced weekly wages, however, and as a result the unions took a firm stand on the "take-home pay" issue. Where a 40-hour week was proved not feasible, compromise wage demands were designed because of the greater work-week.

The whole program was carefully planned and co-ordinated. However, it ran headlong into the government's anti-inflation policy of price and wage control. Nevertheless the unions claimed that price ceilings could be maintained despite wage increases, and supported this thesis by citing wartime advances in productivity, technical aids to further productivity, and the wide profit margins maintained by the manufacturer during the war years.

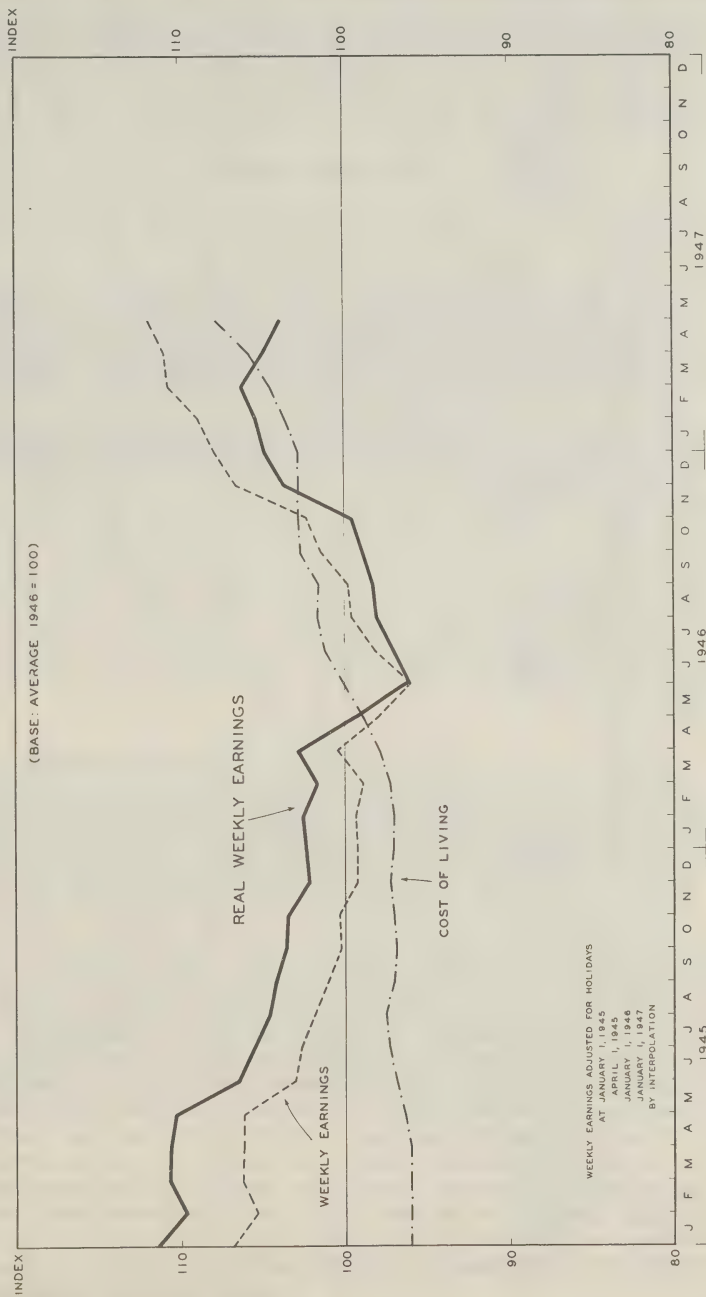
Settlement, therefore, involved the question of redistribution of profits. This, in turn, necessitated the determination of wage-cost-profit relationships for each industry, and in the absence of relevant data, arguments could only be nebulous.

It was almost inevitable that disputes over this matter should be bitter. For management, this was the turning point, if ever there were to be a return, to pre-war labour conditions. Other factors were in favour of a showdown with labour. The industry-wide strike action meant that competing firms were "in the same boat" and a ready market waited whenever production began again.

In many industries, lack of steady supplies would have prevented capacity production in any case. Excess profits and corporation taxes were still at a high level. There was the further factor that labour's strength had not really been tested during the war years, and its staying power may not have been estimated correctly.

The resulting clash lasted for six months. This six-month period alone accounted for 96 per cent of the time lost in 1946. The 1946 time loss - 4,516,393 man-working days - was, of course, an all-time high and almost equalled the total time lost during the previous eight years.

# POST-WAR TREND OF REAL EARNINGS IN CANADA FOR WAGE EARNERS IN MANUFACTURING



SOURCE: DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CH. M.2 - M.2A



## THOUSANDS

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT OF LABOUR - CHS

The final outcome did not seem to markedly favour either group - 55 strike, involving 12,013 workers, were settled in favour of the workers; another 80 strikes, involving 98,481 workers, ended in a compromise; 73 strikes, involving 25,168 workers, ended in favour of the employers. Thus, 110,494 workers, or 79 per cent, gained all or a part of their objectives.

#### After the Disputes Were Over

The effect of the wage increases arising out of these settlements became evident in November, but by February, production had recovered still further and the higher level of earnings was fully apparent. Average weekly wages in total manufacturing were above the 1944 level--\$33.00 at February 1, 1947 as against \$32.64 at December 1, 1944--and average hours had dropped to 43.2 from 46.3 at the same dates respectively; thus the drop in "take-home pay" had been overcome. Meanwhile, however, the cost-of-living index had risen steadily and to equal the 1944 figure in "real" earnings, average weekly earnings at February 1, would have had to be \$35.20.

In line with the government's policy of gradual decontrol, a considerable number of goods and services were removed from price control in January 1947. On April 2 a further major step was taken in abolishing controls on such items as motor vehicles, household equipment, footwear, wool and woollen goods, fuel, plumbing supplies, canned and cooked meats, chemicals, confectioneries, and plastics. Restrictions remained on basic foodstuffs, most clothing, housing and agricultural machinery. The index of wholesale prices<sup>(2)</sup> rose to 125.3 in May, 1947, as compared with 114.2 in January, and 102.5 in December, 1944. The cost-of-living index<sup>(3)</sup> jumped to 133.1 at May 1, as compared with 127.0 at January 1, and 118.5 at December 1, 1944 (see Table 1).

#### The Background of Current Negotiations

The present round of wage negotiations is based primarily on the rise in the cost-of-living. A stated earlier, the general tendency this year has been for the re-negotiation of expiring collective agreements without work stoppages. There are several factors behind the more flexible attitudes of labour and management, and we now shall examine them.

The fact that a business recession has been widely predicted throws a different slant on wage negotiations. For many industries, deferred demand has been satisfied to a considerable extent and the market now is approaching the stage where competition for sales will be keen. A production stoppage at this point would, therefore, be most serious--for labour as well as for management--as it is to labour's advantage that firms compete successfully at this time to establish their post-war markets and thus maintain employment.

The costly round of strikes last year has made both management and labour conscious that neither could afford a similar battle this year. Last year's showing, particularly in logging and steel, consolidated labour's position in the post-war period, though at a cost. A similar round of strikes could not bring any great advantage, and might cost more than any gain in public antagonism. With one eye on proceedings in the United States--notably the Taft-Hartley Labour Bill--labour realizes the necessity for responsibility and reasonableness in its negotiations.

(2) Base 1926=100.

(3) Base 1935-39=100.



Since negotiations are not industry-wide, the managements of individual firms would find work stoppages most expensive, as competing firms might be able to take over their markets. Further, supplies are freer this year and taxes lower, so that the production loss would be greater.

A further major factor in the apparent willingness to compromise on both sides is that demands are based on the factual issue of the rising cost of living and not on the nebulous basis of wage-cost-profit relationships, as last year, where data was not available to prove specific claims. Also, price ceilings have largely been lifted, and, therefore, wage increases are not directed primarily at redistribution of profits (the bitter issue).

Both management and labour were forced last year to explain their positions in some detail and this may have contributed to a better understanding of each other's problems, once feelings had subsided slightly.

For management, another softening influence has been the lack of emphasis on the union security issue, which was dealt with last year. Furthermore, labour's arguments with regard to purchasing power have a greater weight with management when a recession is being predicted. The threat of communism may also help to make management more aware of its responsibility for the health and well-being of its employees.

#### What Is the Outlook?

At the time of writing, not a single key industry is affected by a work stoppage.

In logging, the threat of a strike in British Columbia's major industry disappeared early in July with the signing of an "interim draft agreement" which provided for a  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cent-an-hour wage increase across the board and a 40-hour week. About 27,000 loggers in the coast area were affected. Negotiations had been underway for nine weeks, and are still continuing in the interior. In the Ontario logging district, negotiation of a new agreement should begin in August, and since no demands have yet been presented, it is difficult to predict what will happen. Elsewhere in Canada, no logging disputes are anticipated.

In the coal mining industry, final settlement of the Maritime strike was reached in June. In British Columbia and Alberta existing agreements do not expire until March, 1945; in southern Saskatchewan, collective agreements expire soon and some trouble may arise, but this is a minor field of production. In the field of metal mining, workers in British Columbia's base metal industry gained a  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cent increase recently after peaceful negotiations; no stoppages are expected in gold mining in this province. The dispute involving hard rock miners in Northern Ontario looks as if it will be settled without strike action, following the pattern of other settlements in the district.

In manufacturing it seems as if the major tie-ups of last year will be avoided. No stoppages are anticipated in the basic steel industry of Ontario. Recent wage settlements between General Motors and the U.A.W., negotiated with only a small wildcat strike, are expected to set the pattern in the automobile industry, at an increase of from 9 to 10 cents on the earned rate. A new agreement allowing for an 8 cent increase, concluded by Massey-Harris and the U.A.W. at Toronto and Brantford, will probably extend throughout the farm implement industry. The electrical



industry has always been a likely trouble spot, but the agreement providing for a 10 cent increase recently negotiated at Canadian General Electric may set the pace in this industry. In Nova Scotia and British Columbia the outlook is uncertain for some sections of heavy industry.

In tobacco manufacturing, an interesting agreement was signed early in July. One of the first of its kind to include a cost-of-living clause, it provides a flexible method of compensation for the rapid rise and fall of the cost-of-living index--25 cents per week for each full point rise over April 1947, or a similar 25 cent decrease for a decline.

The situation in textiles appears quiet in Ontario, but the trouble continues at Lachute, Quebec, and disturbances are possible in the Maritimes, where organization is proceeding in several centres.

No work stoppages are looming in major chemical plants. The agreements reached recently in the rubber industry (strikes last year) should set a peaceful pattern in Ontario. Pulp and paper labour-management relations have reached an advanced state, and new agreements were executed this Spring.

The construction industry faces the expiration of agreements in British Columbia and Quebec; substantial increases are sought, it is reported, but labour relations are very good and no difficulty is anticipated.

Water transportation may prove to be a trouble spot, particularly in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River area. It is to be hoped that the railway transportation settlement will proceed in an orderly manner, but it has run into difficulty at present. The workers have taken a strike vote in order to enforce the decision of a conciliation board on vacations with pay, claiming that the railways rejected the board's finding.

Table I--Av. Hours and Hourly Earnings, Av. Weekly Wages  
In Manufacturing Industries at Selected Dates.

(Source: Employment Stat. Br., and Prices Br., D.B.S.)

Item	Dec. 1 1944	Feb. 1 1946	July 1 1946	Feb. 1 1947	May 1 1947
<u>Total Manufacturing -</u>					
Av. hours.....	46.3	44.2	42.4	43.2	43.2
Av. hourly earnings..¢	70.5	68.1	70.0	76.4	78.3
Av. weekly wages.....\$	32.64	30.03	29.68	33.00	33.83
<u>Durable Goods -</u>					
Av. hours.....	46.9	44.4	42.8	43.2	43.3
Av. hourly earnings..¢	77.9	75.2	75.7	83.5	85.4
Av. weekly wages.....\$	36.54	33.29	32.40	36.07	36.98
<u>Non-Durable Goods -</u>					
Av. hours.....	45.5	43.8	42.1	43.1	43.1
Av. hourly earnings..¢	60.4	61.3	64.1	69.4	71.1
Av. weekly wages.....\$	27.48	26.85	26.99	29.91	30.64
<u>Crude, Rolled &amp; Forged -</u>					
Av. hours.....	-	46.5	45.6	45.6	45.2
Av. hourly earnings..¢	-	79.2	79.0	91.4	92.4
Av. weekly wages.....\$	-	36.83	36.02	41.68	41.76
<u>Electrical Apparatus -</u>					
Av. hours.....	-	42.4	41.4	41.0	41.4
Av. hourly earnings..¢	-	70.1	71.0	80.6	82.3
Av. weekly wages.....\$	-	29.72	29.39	33.05	34.07
<u>Rubber -</u>					
Av. hours.....	-	43.5	38.2	44.7	43.7
Av. hourly earnings..¢	-	72.2	70.0	85.5	84.1
Av. weekly wages.....\$	-	31.41	26.74	38.39	36.75
<u>Automobiles &amp; Parts -</u>					
Av. hours.....	-	41.6	39.5	40.5	41.1
Av. hourly earnings..¢	-	92.5	89.5	100.0	101.1
Av. weekly wages.....\$	-	38.48	35.35	40.60	41.55
<u>Wholesale Price Index -</u>					
Base 1926=100.....	102.5	105.2	109.7	118.1	125.3
<u>Cost-of-Living Index -</u>					
Base 1935=39=100.....	118.5	119.9	125.1	127.8	133.1

# SIGNIFICANT LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

PRE-WAR, WAR, AND POST-WAR COMPARISON

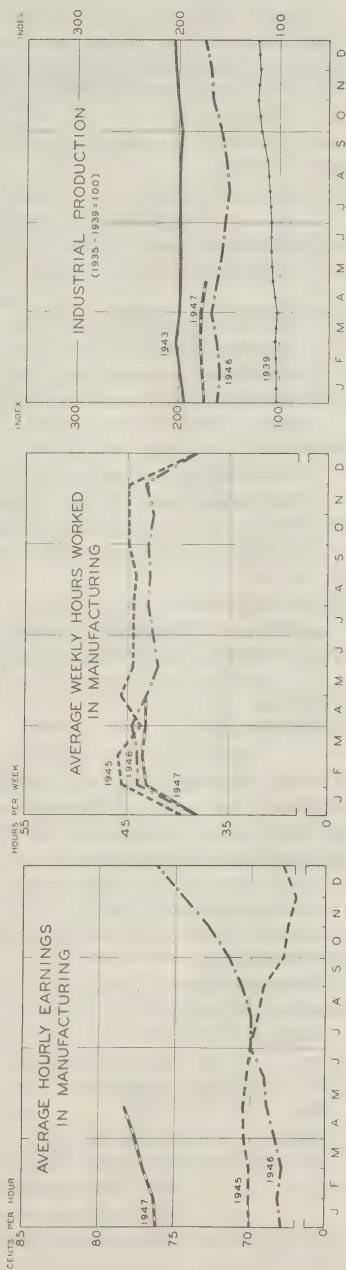
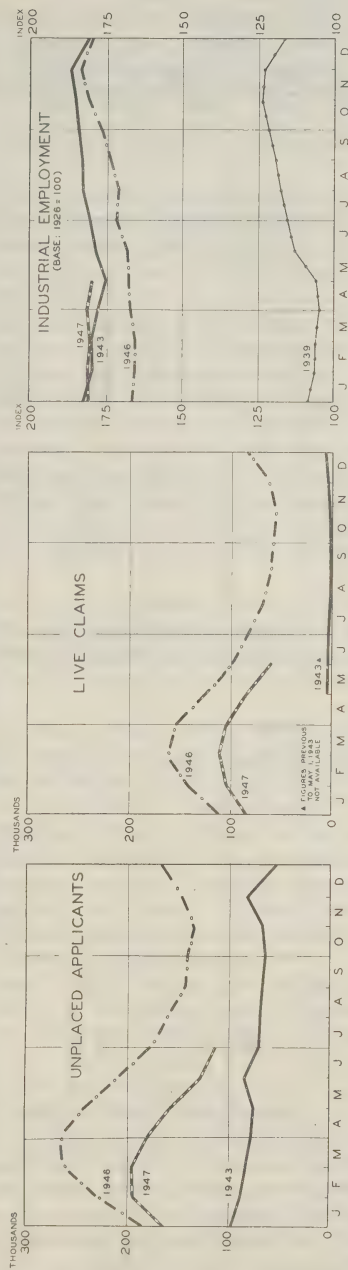




Table II--Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note:--All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Indicators	May 1939	May 1941	May 1942	May 1943	May 1944	May 1945	May 1946	Apr. 1947	May 1947
Employment (a)--									
Index (Av. 1926=100).....	106.2	144.1	165.2	175.5	175.6	173.2	168.0	179.4	178.4
(June 1, 1941=100)...	-	-	109.3	116.1	116.1	114.8	111.3	118.9	118.2
Number(thousands).....	1,140	1,547	1,774	1,884	1,885	1,859	1,804	1,939	1,929
Female(thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	426	441	440
Unplaced Applicants (b)--									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	75	69	76	242	181	157
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	46	44	49	197	146	123
Female(thousands).....	-	-	-	29	25	27	45	35	34
Live Claims--									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	12	19	124	103	82
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	9	13	95	80	60
Female(thousands).....	-	-	-	-	3	6	29	23	22
Earnings (a)--									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941=100)...	-	-	123.2	138.5	145.2	144.8	138.0	163.9	164.0
Per capita weekly earnings.	-	-	28.65	30.60	32.27	32.58	32.16	35.78	35.97
Cost of Living (c)--									
(Av. 1935-39=100).....	-	109.4	116.1	118.1	119.2	119.0	122.0	130.6	133.1
Man-hours and hourly earnings (a)--									
Average hours per week.....	-	-	-	-	-	45.5	43.0	43.2	43.2
Average hourly earnings.....	-	-	-	-	-	70.5	68.9	77.6	78.3
Strikes and lockouts (b)--									
Number.....	13	34	32	40	25	15	36	26	43
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	4	6	7	15	23	3	48	17	34
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	17	22	18	47	126	7	566	364	365
Industrial Production (d)--									
(Av. 1935-39=100)....	106.6	154.6	182.3	198.1	202.5	186.3	161.5	177.4	173.9

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only.)

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

# THE PROBLEM OF THE UNSKILLED OLDER WORKER

A steadily growing sector of the Canadian population is advancing into the "past 45" age group. In 1871, people over 45 years of age comprised 15 per cent of the total population; in 1901—9 per cent; in 1931—29 per cent; in 1941—31 per cent.

Population trends are molded by such factors as immigration, emigration, birth rate and life expectancy rates. Up to late in the Twenties, heavy immigration and a relatively high birth rate fostered a population with many in the "younger" age brackets, thus obscuring to a great extent an ageing of the native population. The result was, that instead of a gradual increase in the proportion of older people in the population, the rise was abrupt as the immigrant population began to mature—the proportion "over 45" increased from 20 to 29 per cent from 1921 to 1931. The virtual cessation of immigration in the Thirties together with the marked drop in the birth rate accentuated the ageing process.

Thus by 1941, almost one-third of the population was beyond 45 years of age. Although population is again being rejuvenated by a rising birth rate and increasing immigration, the "older age" segment of the population will continue to comprise an enlarging section of the labour force.

Trend towards greater industrialization—At the same time, economic influences were at work molding the industrial pattern of the economy. Up to World War I the national income depended almost entirely on the production of primary products or on industries directly related to it. The advent of World War I, however, brought the first significant growth of industrialization. During the twenty-year period between the wars this expansion continued, although severely crippled in the depression years. By 1939, manufacturing production constituted 39 per cent of the total net value of production.

The real shift to industrialization did not gain momentum until World War II, when a tremendous war program called for all types of manufactured goods - from the production of raw materials to the assembling of finished parts. By October, 1943, the peak war employment date, there were 2,876,000 persons working in war and civilian industry - well over 50 per cent of the gainfully employed.

Thus Canada emerged from World War II with an extensive network of industry gauged to produce not only consumer goods but also a substantial line of producer goods. Except for the initial war-industry lay-offs, this expansion has remained unchanged in the post-war period. From November 1945 to March 1947, employment in manufacturing rose by 134,000; at the latter date 1,303,000 persons, or 29 per cent of the total employed, in manufacturing industry.

What is the job record of the unemployed "past 45"?--A fairly general pattern of the average "difficult to place" older worker can be traced through this period. Many saw action in the First Great War, consequently their normal training program was either prevented or seriously interrupted. Others had war jobs in assembly-line munition plants while many entered agriculture to take advantage of the tremendously favourable food market.

Upon rehabilitation, relatively few went into skilled work because, first, there was little industrialization at that time, as previously indicated, and second, because of the slump occurring in the early Twenties. In the following boom years a seller's market for labour prevailed. The average worker, though lacking any specific line of training, could secure a relatively high-paying job in the boom industries, especially construction.

The depression in the Thirties, hit construction and unskilled workers most severely. Skilled workers were released at a much slower rate. Conversely, with the recovery of economic activity in the latter part of the decade, the skilled were re-employed more quickly. In addition, the older age of the unskilled group was beginning to play against the re-hiring of many workers.

Under war conditions, this age discrimination disappeared before the vast labour requirements necessary to fulfil Canada's war commitments. The problem of the "older worker" therefore, did not take definite shape until the post-war era.

Post-war pattern of unemployment--Three months after V-J day 26,000 persons of the 172,000 unemployed, or 15 per cent of the total, were "past 45". Since that time this age group has grown both numerically and proportionately. By March 1, 1947, unemployment in the older age group had risen to 27,000 while overall unemployment had fallen to 141,000.

Further, the older worker has indicated greater sensitivity to seasonal fluctuations. At March 1, 1947, the seasonal low for employment, this age group was responsible for 19 per cent of total unemployment in contrast with 16 per cent at June 1, 1946. That is, seasonal unemployment among older workers jumped 35 per cent against a 12 per cent variation in the general field.

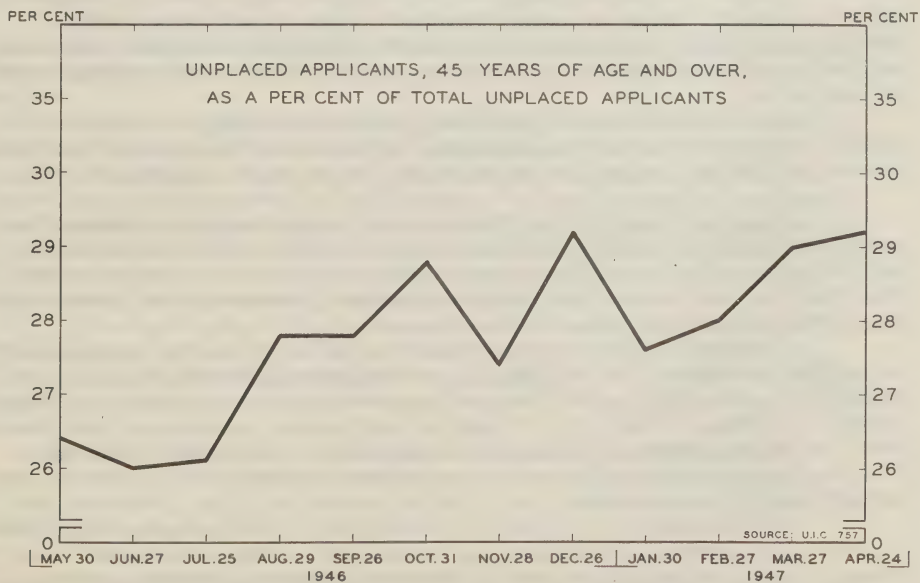
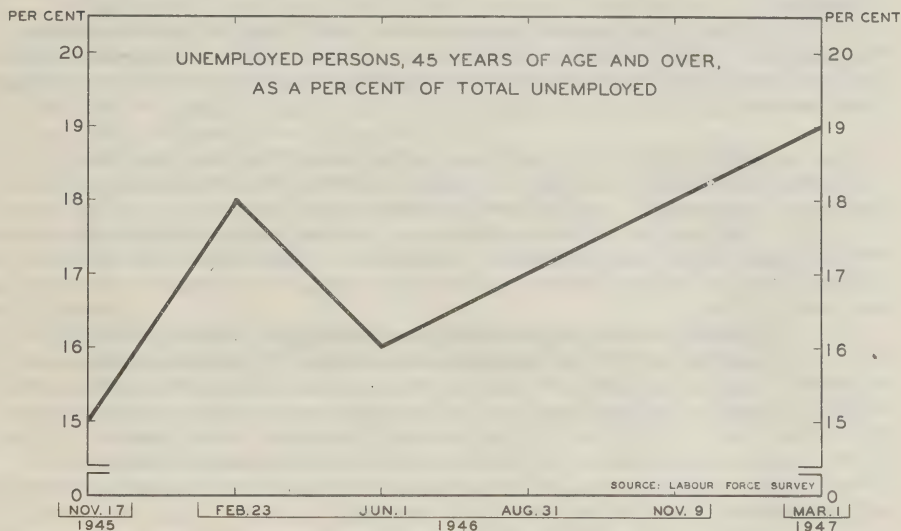
Present seasonal absorption high--Currently, a large proportion of the older workers are being absorbed due to the high level of seasonal activity. However, the problem of permanent rehabilitation in employment not subject to marked seasonal fluctuations is yet to be solved.

What are the objections raised by employers?--According to a survey they can be classified under five headings: (1) Old age results in a lessening of productivity. (2) Accident frequency increases with age. (3) Group insurance is made more expensive. (4) Pension plans do not make it practical to engage workers past 40. (5) The older worker is not so adaptable to learning new techniques.

The first two objections have been proven to be generally untrue. In the automobile industry, which is largely on a piece-work basis, earnings reached their peak in the age group between 50 and 55 years.



# UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG OLDER WORKERS



Statistics show that accidents are more prevalent in the group between 20 and 24 years. It will cost the employer a little more for insurance but the reduced labour turnover would be a saving.

The Pension Plan could be a real stumbling block in the way of hiring older workers. However, most plans do not stipulate that an employee must be covered while others allow for the return of contributions to workers who have not been with the firm long enough to warrant a pension.

While it is a popular idea that older people resist change, the past war years saw them doing types of work quite different from anything they had previously done and yet keeping pace with the average plant worker.

Comprehensive counselling needed--Quoting the late Edsel Ford, "Our real assistance to them (the older worker) has been merely the discovery of tasks which would develop their usefulness."

The late Dr. Lillian Martin, a pioneer in the field of intensive counselling in the United States, opened and operated an Old Age Centre in San Francisco which became a model for similar centres in other American cities.

Working on the theory that an unemployed person is not at his best or at least is on the defensive during the first interview, she advocated four interviews, each one week apart. The first three were mainly to obtain information about the applicant's life history, his interests, and to discover his aptitudes through a Binet Simon intelligence test. On the basis of what Dr. Martin had learned, the fourth interview was a discussion of the applicant's goal and any adjustment he may require to fit him for available openings.

While this method may seem to be slow and to take in subjects which people are prone to think "personal", the added knowledge will enable counsellors to approach prospective employers with more assurance, and so to effect placements in certain positions even when a younger man is available.

Apart from existing jobs in industry a man might have a hobby which, with a few suggestions from the employment officer, might be turned into a profitable occupation or point the way to a new employment field.

"Reserve" positions--There is a growing idea among counsellors, which they are trying to "sell" to employers, that certain jobs might be set aside for older men with no particular skills. It is not essential that they be jobs where there is possibility of promotion but rather that they offer steady and permanent employment.

Generally, the untrained older worker with family responsibilities is mainly interested in the security of employment, and consequently he will accept work of a repetitive and routine nature if it offers a steady source of income. This type of work to the younger person, on the other hand, is often viewed as "stop-gap" employment - the employer therefore will be faced with a continuous heavy labour turnover if he limits hiring to relatively young labour.

The detrimental effects of excessive labour turnover are obvious. It is on the grounds of substantial reductions in labour turnover resulting from hiring older help that many employment officers have been successfully approaching employers.

Greater mechanical power has increased the number of suitable jobs for older men. A young man may be required to push a heavy truck through a plant but a man of 60 can operate an electric tractor which will pull a dozen trucks by the simple use of a lever.

Suggested openings---Agriculture presents employment for many but for the most part these jobs are seasonal and may be classified as heavy labour even for those who are used to this type of work. Ordinary gardening, on the other hand, requires many hand workers. However, one important factor against this work is that wages are small and the worker has to maintain a home in an urban centre.

Manufacturing offers a variety of work which might be reserved for this group. Such occupations are machine oiler, in which a man walks from one machine to another oiling moveable parts, or sweeper or handyman, where he keeps floors and windows clean and collects waste paper. Older workers could also run freight elevators, be timekeepers, oil finished metal parts for storage or shipping, or do many odd jobs in shipping or storage rooms.

While most training programs are not open to this group, with some instruction on-the-job these men could act either as helpers to skilled workers or run a machine which requires little mechanical ability. In a plant where one operation is repeated and set-up men are used, older men could watch machines or do simple checking.

Two very important occupations which appear in substantial numbers in manufacturing, mining, lumbering and construction are tool room clerks and stock clerks. Both of these are semi-clerical with some light work.

All industries require a certain number of night watchmen, timekeepers, guards and gatemen. These jobs seem almost made for older workers as they demand men who are dependable, alert and able to work alone.

Many older men, principally veterans, seem to turn to service work - since generally this work has been "saved" for the older ex-servicemen. Federal, Provincial and Municipal Departments of Public Works offer a great variety of jobs such as caring for public buildings and parks, elevator operators, janitors, clerks, confidential messengers and protective services. Similar jobs appear in private business along with others such as doormen in theatres, service station attendants, hotel workers, truck drivers, routemen and helpers.

The shortage of female domestics has created many opportunities. In these jobs a man can work either alone or in a group doing cleaning and polishing in homes on an hourly basis. The pay at the present time is relatively good and the hours can be suited to the limitations of the worker.

Janitor service, coupled with the cleaning of sidewalks in winter and caring for lawns in summer at a number of private homes in the same district, has also proven to be a profitable occupation for many in the older age group.

The present period of general manpower shortage offers an excellent opportunity for employment officers and employers to delve into the problem of the successful absorption of the older worker.





## EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITIES

In the face of sharp reductions in both job applicants at N. E. S. offices and employers' orders for additional help, placements have shown relatively little decline. During the first five months of 1947, the respective decreases over the comparative period last year were: applications, 17 per cent; vacancies, 10 per cent; placements, 3 per cent.

In general, the subsiding activity at employment offices reflects the current relatively stable employment situation. Unplaced applicants fell to an all-time low to total 115,000 by July 3.

All indications pointed to an easy absorption of "first jobbers" at the close of the school year. Some employers were placing substantial orders for immigrant labour while others were utilizing the reserve of unemployed workers in Nova Scotia and other areas.

A conference of employment advisors representing all universities throughout Canada convened at Laval University, Quebec city, June 17 - 21. It was disclosed that, except for isolated cases, absorption of university students into both summer and permanent employment was complete.

Reporting of vacancies at N. E. S. offices--The seasonal upswing in vacancies during the spring of 1947 was relatively slow. During March, April and May the respective monthly percentage increases were 8 per cent, 6 per cent and 6 per cent respectively. The comparative period in 1946 registered gains of 19 per cent, 18 per cent and 8 per cent respectively.

The current labour market picture is one of full employment with certain geographical and occupational dislocations. Employers, realizing the limitations of the available sources of labour are not placing orders for help in full. There has been a growing tendency to look toward immigration or transfer of labour from depressed areas, such as Cape Breton, as a possible means of meeting demand.

During May, vacancies showed a slight seasonal gain. Jobs were reported in increasing numbers in construction, trade, service, food processing and machinery manufacturing. Average weekly vacancies numbered 34,000 leaving 99,000 on file at the month-end. One year before an average of 40,000 were listed each week with 112,000 remaining unfilled at the end of the corresponding period.

The labour supply situation--The number of job seekers hit an all-time low in May, indicating the relatively stable current labour market. Weekly applications fell to 29,000 in May in contrast to the yearly high of 41,000 in January and 60,000 during peak demobilization. The "winter-unemployed" had, for the most part, been successfully absorbed into summer employment by the end of May. The unplaced had fallen to 128,000--less than 3 per cent of the labour force.

In general, undermanned industry was looking to three main sources for recruitment of additional help--first jobbers, transfers from unemployment areas, and immigration.

The normal influx of first jobbers began at the end of May, at the close of the school term. The tight labour supply situation in the technical field was relieved with the absorption of graduating engineers, but the limited number graduating left much of the demand unsatisfied. It was expected that several thousand high school students would be available at the end of June. Many employers contacted them before the end of the term, for employment.

Transfer of workers from chronic unemployment areas has been gaining momentum. Since the beginning of 1947, some 1,200 Maritime workers had been moved to gainful employment in labour-short mines, factories and farms in Ontario. The unemployed in Windsor and Oshawa were recruited for factory work in St. Thomas.

Immigration has been an important source of labour supply. The first four months of 1947 saw some 11,000 immigrants enter Canada and it is expected that the number of arrivals will show steady gains throughout the summer.

Matching the applicant to the job--The level of referral activity reflects the state of balance existing between labour demand and supply. Necessarily such considerations as the geographical and occupational distribution of workers, job requirements and wage rates, physical strength, traits and responsibilities of the job seeker, degree of mobility of labour, and the skill of the placement officer, rather than the actual numbers of applicants and vacancies reported to N. E. S. offices are the decisive "matching" factors.

The interplay of these factors during the first five months of 1947 resulted in greater proportionate referral activity than in the corresponding period one year ago. Referrals showed a 4 per cent decline despite a 17 per cent drop in applications and a 10 per cent decrease in jobs reported.

Similar to the referral trend, placement activity showed a much smaller proportionate drop than did either vacancies or job applications. During the first five months recorded in 1947, placements showed a 3 per cent decline over the comparative period in 1946. Since a 4 per cent drop was recorded in referral activity it was evident that there had been a slight upswing in the effective referral ratio--that is, more referrals eventuated in placements.

Seasonal influences pushed placement activity up 6 per cent during May. The most substantial increase took place in mining, followed by sharp upswings in construction, service and sawmill employment. The up-trend in these industries was general throughout the country and was common to both men and women. Average weekly placements totalled 15,300 per week as compared with 14,300 and 13,000 one month and one year before respectively.

Veterans in the labour market--Veteran applications dipped only slightly during the past few months--indicating the flow of college students into the labour market at the close of the university year. Placements, on the other hand, continued to soar. A 15 per cent gain was registered during



May, bringing to 4,380 the average number of placements effected each week.

The most outstanding development was the tremendous jump in placements of Dual Service and World War I veterans. Appointments during May topped all records since the beginning of 1946. This remarkable account, in the face of the declining rate of demobilization points up the great success achieved by the public campaigns launched on behalf of the older veteran.

As indicated above, the successful absorption of students--both temporarily and permanently--appeared to have taken place by the latter part of June.

Unplaced ex-servicemen at May 29, the latest recorded date, totalled 38,000--a drop of 14,000 or 27 per cent during May. The duration of registrations for employment showed a marked proportionate drop, indicating an alleviation in the heavier unemployment spots.

In April, 77 per cent of the unplaced had been registered for work for more than 15 days. In May, this percentage had fallen to 73.



# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES

## Agriculture

Estimated employment.....1,304,000

The recent improvement in crop prospects, despite the late seeding, is expected to increase the demand for harvest labour. During July however, no labour shortages were reported except in Ontario, although the chronic condition of scarcity of permanent farm hands continued in all regions. Transient labour is reported as more plentiful this year in B.C., where the season is several weeks in advance of the rest of the country.

During 1946, cash income of Canadian farmers totalled \$1,742,341,000 or 2.6 per cent above 1945. Grain and field crops contributed 43 per cent of the total and livestock and dairy products over 55 per cent. By province, the value of Ontario farm products was highest, at \$469 million, followed by Saskatchewan with \$411 million, and Alberta, \$289 million.

Although they have been rising steadily, the low level of farm wage rates, combined with the nature and location of the work, prevent recruitment of a complete agricultural labour force. At May 15, the Canada average of farm wage rates was \$103.96 without board and \$77.01 with board, per month. In monthly wage rates with board, Alberta and Saskatchewan figures were highest, \$82.21 and \$81.98 respectively. Without board, the B.C. average led all provinces, \$112.31. Prince Edward Island data were lowest in both cases.

Table I--Canada Average of Male Farm Help Wages per Month  
as at May 15, 1945, 1946 and 1947

(Source: Agricultural Division, D.B.S.)

	1945	1946	1947
With Board.....	\$66.88	\$71.36	\$77.01
Without Board.....	90.60	96.27	103.96

## Manufacturing

Estimated employment.....1,318,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 29,000

During the summer months, employment in the manufacturing industries normally remains relatively stable, rising to its annual peak in the fall. This year, the absence of any major strikes will permit steadier production and a more rapid rate of employment expansion than during 1946.



The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index of manufacturing employment (1926=100) was at 195.8 at May 1, well below the wartime peak of 223.2 for that month reached in 1944. Manufacturing and agriculture both employ over a million people and together these two industries constitute more than half of the total labour force now over four and a half millions.

Except in the case of the textile industry, lack of labour is not a serious limiting factor on production. Orders for workers placed with the National Employment Service by employers, which represent only a part of total labour demand, show that another 30,000 could be used. Textiles and food products account for nearly half of this total. Nine thousand more workers, mostly women, could be used in Ontario and Quebec textile factories. The secondary forestry industries, i.e., lumber and pulp and paper products, need 5,000 more.

Latest data show average weekly wages in manufacturing to be nearly \$34.00, more than \$4.00 over the same date in 1946.

#### The Services Industry

Estimated employment.....875,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 22,500

Employment in the services industry has been steadily increasing since the end of the war, obscuring in part the normal seasonal fluctuations. The industry now ranks third among the major industrial groups on the basis of the employment it provides, surpassed only by agriculture and manufacturing.

Out of every 100 persons working in the services group, over 40 are women and the present labour shortages are chiefly of women workers. Of the 22,500 unfilled vacancies, 15,400 are female of which 7,700 are in personal service and 3,400 in domestic service.

The working force in this industry is composed of several large but rather heterogeneous divisions. The three major occupational groups are professional, public and personal service. Public employment, federal, provincial and municipal, now is estimated to be over 350,000 and professional service comprises another 250,000.

#### Trade, Finance and Insurance

Estimated employment.....728,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 9,400

Sixteen per cent of Canada's industrial employment, including agriculture, is in this industry group. Of the total, nearly half a million are employees and proprietors of retail trade establishments. Another 100,000 are in the wholesale trade.

Riding on the crest of a record sales boom, estimated at nearly \$5 billions last year, employment in this industry now is at a new peak, retail stores alone employing 100,000 more workers than they did in 1939.

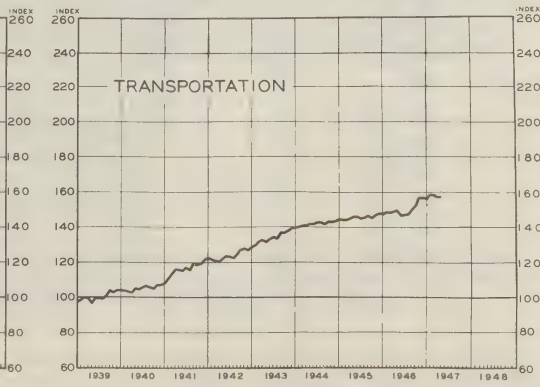
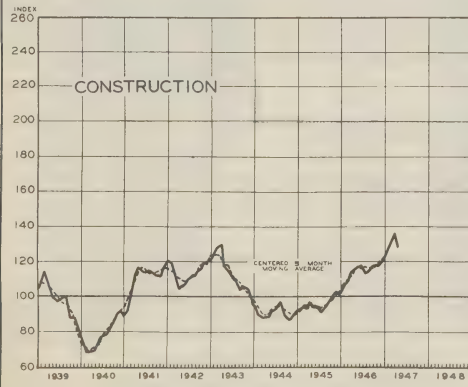
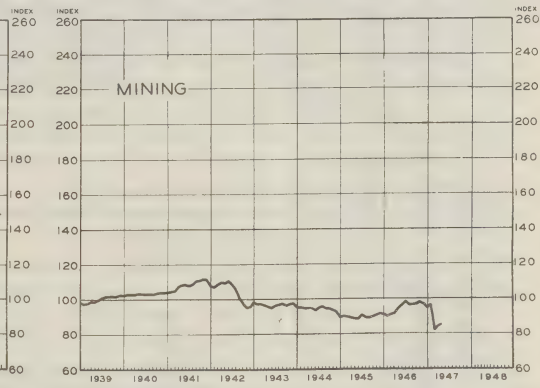
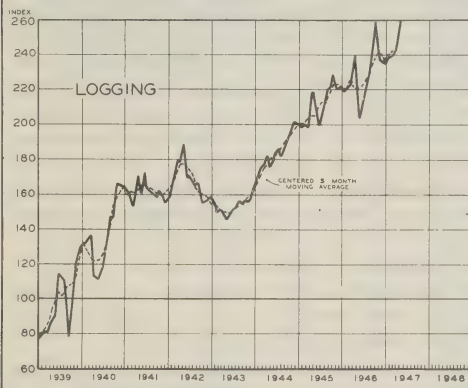
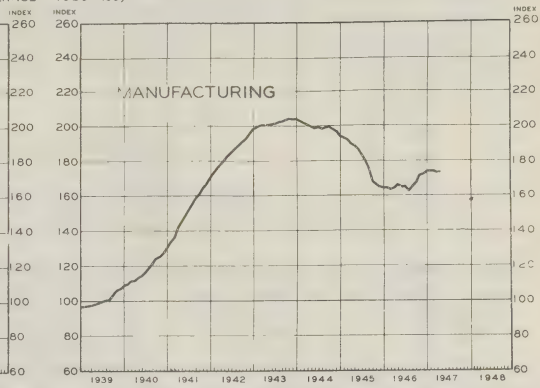
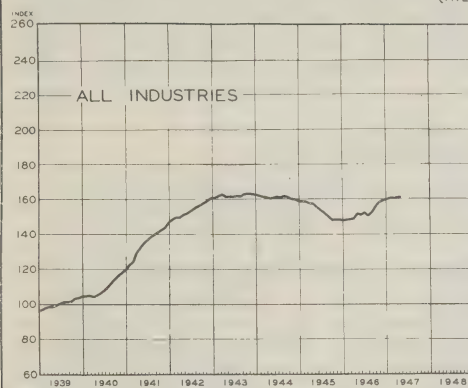
Seasonal instability remains as a permanent disadvantage of retail trade employment, however. Next to the Christmas period, buying is most active during the summer months when a secondary employment peak is reached. In July 1946, the retail trade labour force was 25,000 over the low point reached at the first of February.

# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

## SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)

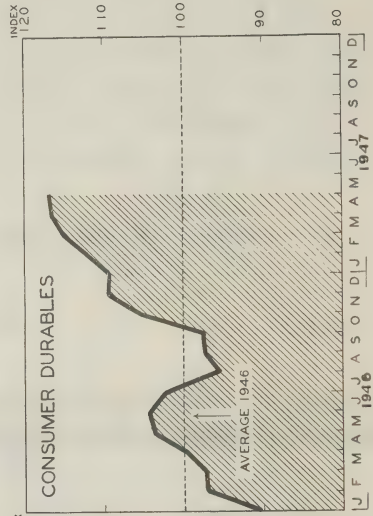
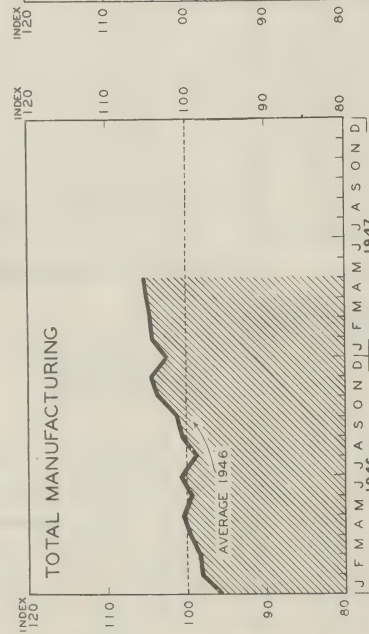
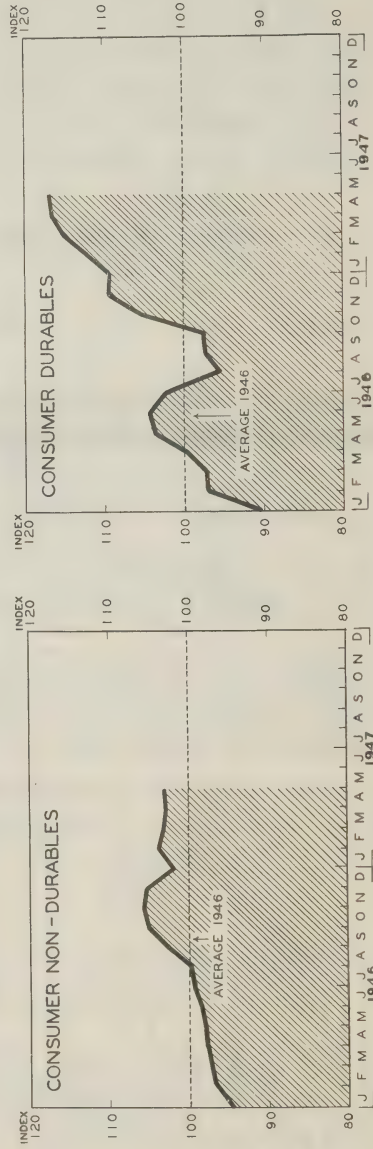
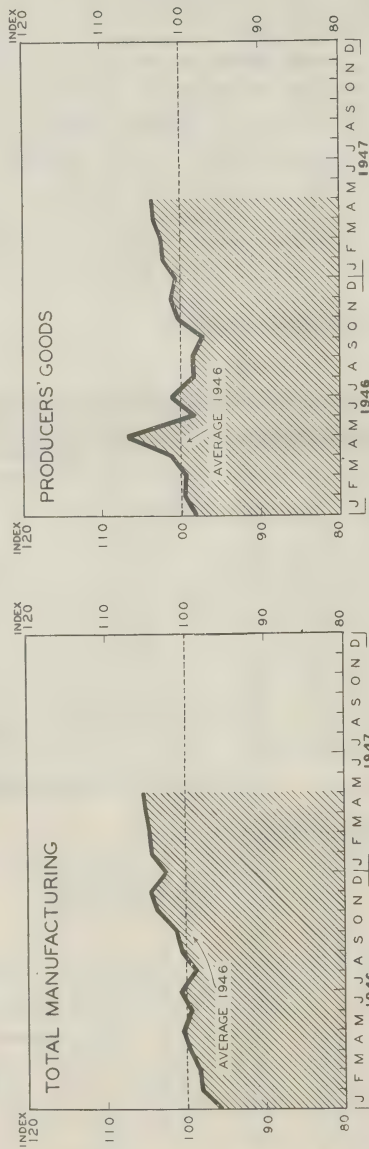


# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

## MAJOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

(INDUSTRIES GROUPED ACCORDING TO GENERAL USE OF PRODUCTS)

1946 — 1947





On a dollar value basis, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics estimates that department store inventories now are nearly 50 per cent above their level at the same date last year. With this greater availability of goods, retail sales continue to advance, their value being about 10 per cent above the same period in 1946 for the first five months of this year. A large part of this increase is due to higher prices, the retail price index for May 1 (commodities only) being 12 per cent above that of last year at the same date.

#### Forestry, Fishing and Trapping

Estimated employment.....109,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 9,400(logging only)

Current indications suggest that the fishing industry in Canada may be slowly returning to its pre-war state after the war-created boom which saw the industry's labour force reach an estimated 50,000 and the gross value of fisheries production top the \$100 million mark.

Although the industry took in almost the same volume of catch during the first six months of 1947 as in the same period in 1946, in spite of a three month strike of deep-sea fishermen in the Maritimes, the value of the catch was down from \$22.6 millions to \$17.7 millions. Loss of markets, especially in Europe, and falling prices now face the industry. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports that the wholesale price index of fisheries products has been declining steadily since the first of the year, "reflecting the greater availability of fish and other protein foods, the decline in abnormal wartime demand, and the high level of inventories of frozen fish in Canada." The recent decision by the Federal Government to spend \$8 millions for fish for European relief will assist the inshore fisheries.

No further work stoppages, such as occurred in the Maritimes in the first three months of this year are expected. New collective agreements have been reached in B.C., where nearly 10,000 fishermen are unionized.

In logging, employment reaches its lowest point during the summer months but the unusual amount of pulpwood cutting being done this summer has kept labour demand reported to the National Employment Service up to the 10,000 mark. Despite some difficulties with high water levels, river drives are reported as progressing satisfactorily in Eastern Canada, with the main sweep now underway.

#### Construction and Maintenance

Estimated employment.....283,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 11,300

An extremely high level of highway and commercial and institutional building this year has maintained construction employment above the 1946 level. High costs, however, have led to a reduction in the volume of residential building.

Consequently, the value of contracts awarded, a fairly good indicator of the future trend of construction activity, have been slightly below last year. Up to July, the total was estimated at \$401.7 millions, compared to last year's seven month total of \$410.3 millions. For June and July, however, the total value of all types was above the comparative 1946 figures.

One of the most serious shortages at present in the Canadian labour market, that of unskilled heavy labour is reflected in the 6,300 orders registered with National Employment Service at July 3 for construction workers of this type. Among skilled occupations, the largest number of unfilled vacancies are for carpenters, but the greatest surpluses of vacancies over applicants occur in the trowel trades, bricklayers and plasterers, and cement and concrete finishers. The total number of vacancies at July 3, 11,300, was almost equal to the figure at the same time last year.

Table I--Unfilled Vacancies and Unplaced Applicants in the  
Construction Industry at July 3, 1947

(Source: Research and Statistics Br., Dept. of Labour.)

Occupation	Unfilled Vacancies	Unplaced Applicants
Bricklayers and Tile Setters.....	674	90
Carpenters.....	2,864	1,912
Cement and Concrete Finishers.....	160	45
Painters.....	578	547
Plasterers.....	139	32
Plumbers & Steamfitters.....	383	397
Other Occupations.....	351	254
Unskilled.....	6,342	3,964

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following deals with June labour market conditions in each of the five regions, Maritime, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie, and Pacific.

Table I—Unplaced Applicants by Region, at Selected Dates

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

Region	July 3, 1947			May 29, 1947	July 4, 1946
	Male	Female	Total	Total	Total
Maritime.....	15,700	2,800	18,500	22,500	24,700
Quebec.....	22,000	8,200	30,200	36,500	48,900
Ontario.....	19,800	12,200	32,000	29,800	48,000
Prairie.....	12,600	6,500	19,100	21,200	30,700
Pacific.....	10,900	3,800	14,700	16,500	27,000
Canada.....	81,000	33,500	114,500	126,500	179,300

### MARITIME REGION....

Downtrend of job seekers continues at faster rate in June—  
Unplaced applicants in the Maritime Region fell by some 4,900 during June—the sharpest decline since the beginning of the downtrend in April. Agriculture and construction required men; the tourist industry brought generally increased trade and a need for hotel and restaurant workers. But in addition to these seasonal factors, the number of unplaced applicants was reduced by the migration of unemployed workers, chiefly from the Cape Breton and New Glasgow districts, to jobs in Ontario.

Better crop prospects as weather improves—Warm weather in the latter half of June substantially improved crop prospects. A good hay crop is expected. There was a steady demand for experienced farm labourers throughout the month, although inexperienced help was not wanted. It is expected that sufficient labour will be available to meet all requirements during the harvest season.

Overseas marketing problem confronts Nova Scotia apple producers—Nova Scotia apple producers are faced with the possibility of no British market for this year's crop because of the British government's



efforts to reduce further dollar imports. Growers seem to think that a federal marketing policy would be the solution. There have been suggestions for a plan of government marketing through gift or lend-lease, or through the inclusion of fresh and processed apples among the products to be shipped to Europe under the Canadian post-UNRRA assistance policy.

Construction work picks up with better weather--Construction work, which was considerably curbed by bad weather in the first two weeks of June, is going ahead at a fairly high level. Unskilled labour is plentiful, but bricklayers, stonemasons and plasterers are urgently required. Skilled carpenters are also needed in some areas.

Highway construction well underway - major project planned in Nova Scotia--Highway work is progressing, with sufficient labour available in most areas. The Nova Scotia government will call tenders for the construction of a causeway between Cape Sable Island and Barrington Passage, Shelburne county. The work will take one to two years and will provide employment for a considerable number of unemployed workers in the Yarmouth-Shelburne area.

Fishing industry benefits by new export contract--The decision of the Federal government to spend eight million dollars for fish to export to Europe will materially aid the Maritime fishing industry which has been hard-hit by the falling American market.

Coal mining employment below pre-strike level--The coal mining strike ended June 12th. Employment has not regained its pre-strike level, however, for several reasons. In Nova Scotia a policy of pensioning off employees over 65 years has been put into effect. These men are registering for employment with N.E.S., but there is little hope of finding suitable employment for them. In New Brunswick, operators have reported a lack of orders, largely because of stockpiling of coal brought in from other areas during the strike. Thus, a fairly large number of miners remain unemployed.

#### Halifax

The granting of a seven million dollar contract to Halifax Shipyards Ltd., by Argentina will cause an unexpected change in manufacturing employment through a timely uptrend in shipbuilding. This contract will provide steady employment, in contrast to the seasonal nature of ship repair work.

From April 1 to May 1 shipbuilding employment recorded a drop of 1,087 men, most of whom were released in a mass lay-off at the H. M. C. Dockyard. Since then, while there have been no major lay-offs, long-term prospects have not been bright. Shipyards were virtually living from contract to contract.

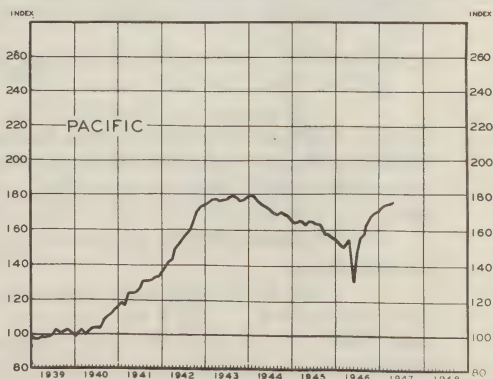
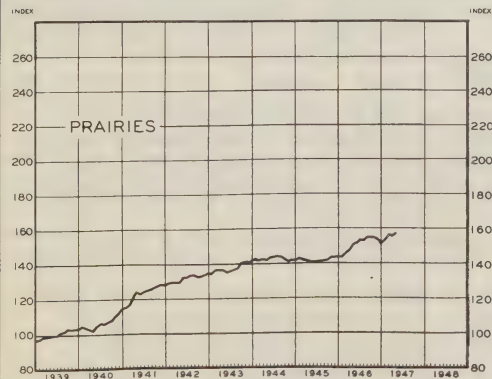
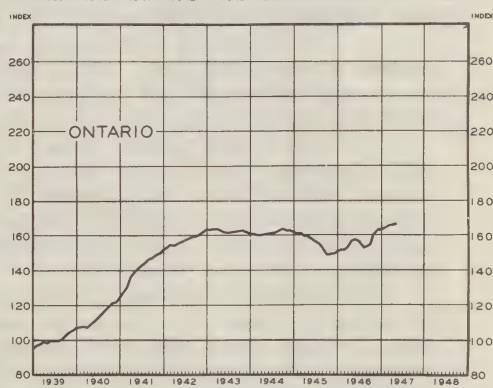
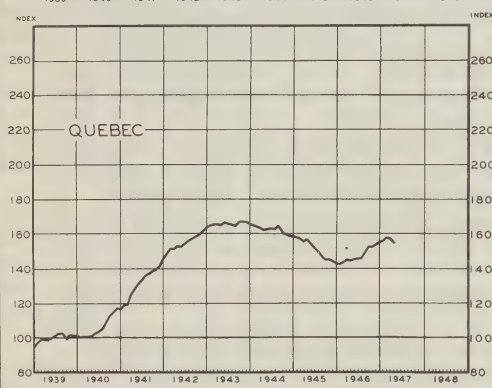
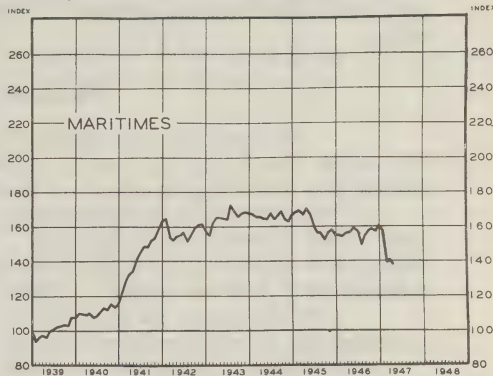
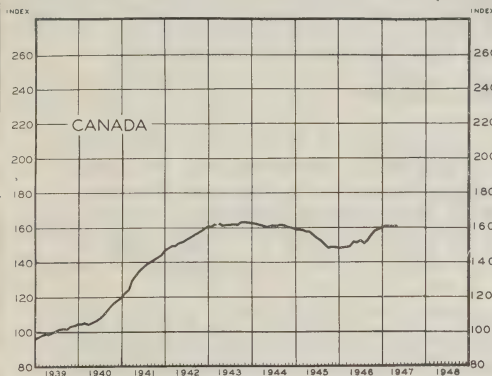
The new contract secured by Halifax Shipyards Ltd. will ensure work in this firm for about two years. What is even more important, it will provide employment for an additional five or six hundred men--bringing the firm's total work force up to about 2,500. Thus many of the men laid-off from the H. M. C. Dockyard will be able to get jobs at their respective

# REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

## SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

### FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)



trades. With this increased work force, total employment in shipbuilding will be about 4,000, compared to 7,000 during the war.

The general consensus of opinion concerning the future of Canadian shipbuilding has been that present output and employment might be maintained for about two years. The new contract obtained by Halifax Shipyards Ltd., means that employment there will live up to these expectations. Previously, prospects were dark, and there were rumours of layoffs.

#### New Glasgow - Pictou

By June 26, the number of male unplaced applicants was about 975 below the April 1, level. This drop, while encouraging, is largely due to the steady migration of unemployed workers to central Canada.

However, industrial activity, with the exception of shipbuilding, is at a more promising level, with work on hand for some time to come. The Pictou shipyards now employ about 100 men in comparison with upwards of 1,600 at April 1, 1945.

Employment in other iron and steel manufacturing groups should increase as work progresses on the order for two thousand freight cars. The major company involved in this order is the Eastern Car Co., Ltd., but several other firms will also benefit through sub-contracts.

Coal mines in the area now are operating full-time and all miners are back at work. This will mean much to the district, and particularly to retail and wholesale business as the miners represent over half the reported employment in the area.

The coal strike caused total reported employment to drop about 800 below the August 1939 level. But even with the pre-strike quota of miners back at work, employment is only about 500 above that point. On a percentage basis, reported employment now is about 15 per cent above September 1, 1939; employment in all Canada from September 1, 1939 to April 1, 1947 rose 51 per cent.

Fish processing plants are operating full-time and the supply of help, in line with the large number of unplaced applicants, is plentiful. There is a reported shortage of skilled woodsmen and sawmill workers. Construction activity has fallen short of expectations. Very little work is in progress, although a substantial volume is in the offing.

#### St. John

Industry in this city is working at a stable level with a slight downtrend noted in manufacturing. Employment in non-manufacturing industry shows a substantial gain over last year,--accounting for the increase of 800 workers in total reported employment in the year ending April 1, 1947.

Numerically, unplaced applicants showed little or no change during June.

Overall reported employment in Saint John jumped 99.8 per cent from September 1, 1939 to April 1, 1947. It is rather interesting to note that at the end of June, unplaced applicants in New Brunswick represented only 22 per cent of the total for the Maritime region as a whole. This compares with 73 per cent in Nova Scotia and the remaining 5 per cent in Prince Edward Island.



With improved weather at the end of June, farmers expect that their crops will equal last year's. Local fishermen expect a very good catch during July. Pulp and lumber operations are absorbing some men. Further, restaurants and hotels are looking for a large number of assistants as the tourist trade gains impetus.

Placement of veterans, and particularly C. V. T. graduates does not present a difficult problem. Most employers are anxious to obtain this type of worker.

### Sydney

Up to about the middle of June, upwards of 1,000 unemployed workers were sent from industrial Cape Breton to jobs in Ontario and Quebec. Indications are that the transfer of surplus workers will be accelerated during the remaining summer months. Massey-Harris Company of Brantford, one of the largest employers of Cape Bretoners, currently employs 287 men and is trying to recruit an additional 300. In addition to the jobless persons cleared through N. E. S., many miners and steel workers headed for Ontario during the 110-day coal strike without going through the regular channels.

Sydney firms participating in ship repair work have been hard-hit this year because many ships did not use this port while the coal strike was in progress. Seasonal expansion in the working force in iron and steel manufacturing is taking place, but this industry cannot possibly absorb the hundreds of men registered for work in the area.

All mines in the district are working steadily. Owing to internal changes in the working force all miners recently involved in the strike have not been provided with employment. It is expected that by the middle of July the future policy of the employers will be announced. Meanwhile, an encouraging increase in the daily production of coal is noted.

The working force engaged in construction work shows little change. It is stated that many veterans are building homes on their own. While this places a heavy drain on available supplies it does not provide an appreciable amount of employment.

Rail transportation has increased considerably since the settlement of the mining dispute. Several runs which were discontinued during the strike are in operation again.

The decline in the number of male unplaced applicants from June 1 to June 26 accounted for 797 men, leaving an additional 4,015 registered for employment. While this is a most encouraging downtrend, the number of male placements roughly coincides with the number who obtained jobs outside the Sydney area. Therefore, no marked improvement in the local labour market situation is evident.

QUEBEC REGION....

Nineteen thousand fewer applicants than in 1946—The decline of 6,300 in the number of unplaced applicants during June brought the total down to 18,700 below the level at the end of June, 1946—16,000 fewer men and 2,700 fewer women.

Labour demand in agriculture still low—Farm work is five weeks behind in some areas, present delays being due to excess water lying on the land. However, warm weather towards the end of June substantially improved crop prospects and a heavy hay crop is expected. With the improved weather, increasing farm work will probably exert a decided pressure on the labour supply.

Labour situation acute in mining—With summer here, underground men have been leaving the mines for outdoor work. It has been practically impossible to replace them. Training beginners is difficult, as so few experienced miners are available and it now is equally difficult to obtain even beginners when they can readily find alternative work.

Woods operations are at a low level. Larger driving crews were required this year than normally because of the flooded rivers. However, the demand was met in most cases. Sawmills now are busy with the winter's cut of logs.

Construction work is heavy, with the decline in residential building offset by commercial and industrial building. Much road work is underway. Both skilled tradesmen and good construction labourers are in poor supply.

Manufacturing employment continues at high level—Steel production has been rising steadily. The iron and steel industry requires highly skilled machinists and toolmakers; foundries have been placing orders for moulders. Canadian Car and Foundry are re-hiring staff for work on the freight car order placed some months earlier. Truck manufacturing companies report stepped-up production with a freer flow of supplies. Sash and door factories are working at capacity.

There has, however, been a drop in furniture production because of over-stocking in the retail trade. The primary textile industry continues to seek labour to augment working staffs, but the secondary textile industry has been releasing some employees because of a sharp decline in the women's dress trade in Montreal.

Chicoutimi

The aluminum industry, the chief source of employment in the Chicoutimi-Arvida area, is at present seriously handicapped by shortages of help, complicated by heavy labour turnover. Many men are unwilling to work in the aluminum pot rooms during the hot summer months. As a result, the Aluminum Company of Canada is losing many of its men to

agriculture, construction and other seasonally active industries. Labour shortages in this company are so acute that it was necessary to close down one pot-room during June at a loss of \$35,000 to the company. An order for workers has been placed in clearance, but few men have been obtained because of the high physical standards necessary.

Until building material becomes more plentiful and wages lower it is expected that construction of private homes will show no marked increase. Currently, very few private residences are under construction. However, commercial construction continues at a high level with a strong labour demand.

At present 1,200 men are engaged in bush operations in the area. Demand for labour in this industry showed a marked decrease during June, with requirements limited to replacements for normal labour turnover.

#### Montreal

Labour market conditions in Montreal are extremely favourable at the present time. Unplaced applicants are at an all-time low and jobs available are numerous and varied.

A high level of manufacturing employment, seasonal work and unusually heavy port activity are the main reasons behind the existing employment situation.

According to figures released by the Montreal Industrial and Economic Bureau, the first six months of 1947 have seen 70 major business developments in the Montreal area involving a \$25 million capital. In addition, several million dollars have been invested in minor developments. New industries and additions to factories are included in the groups.

At present there are job openings for upwards of 7,000 men in this area. Unplaced applicants are just slightly below this figure. Thus, for the first time since the end of the war there is an approximate balance between job applicants and jobs on file at N.E.S. offices. This time last year there were 23,000 male unplaced applicants and 8,000 vacancies.

A recession in the secondary textile industry is partially responsible for the current 2,200 female unplaced applicants. As has been the case for the past two years, vacancies for women by far outnumber applicants, the former now totalling 6,600.

#### Quebec

June employment conditions in the Quebec-Levis labour market area continued on the uptrend. A general improvement has been noted in manufacturing industry during the past month. Labour demand in construction, agriculture and the service industries continues strong. Unplaced applicants now number approximately 7,000, a considerable drop from the January 1 figure of 10,000.

Employment in the St. Laurence Metal and Marine Works Ltd. has risen sharply, additional steel supplies permitting work on shipbuilding contracts to proceed, after several months delay.

Production in the tobacco industry now is back to normal. Workers laid-off during May have been recalled and several additional



men were taken on.

Logging and mining currently report heavy demand for labour. In the former industry, drivers, loaders, teamsters, diesel motor mechanics and motor saw operators are urgently required. Recruiting for labour for the Noranda gold mines has picked up owing to the fact that this company now pays transportation costs in advance to the men taking jobs in their mines.

As the summer season advances requests for help in the service industries are increasing. Demand for unskilled workers is readily filled but skilled tradesmen such as cooks, pastry men, etc. are almost impossible to obtain.

### Shawinigan Falls

The key word for manufacturing industry in this area in 1947 is expansion - in both production and employment.

The Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd. states that present contracts on hand will maintain present production for two years. This news comes on top of the expansion and changeover program of plant facilities.

As was previously announced, plant expansion also is taking place in Shawinigan Chemicals, Canadian Industries Limited, Canadian Resins and Chemicals Ltd., and the textile industry.

The only large manufacturing plant not mentioned above is the Consolidated Paper Corporation plant which, in line with the pulp and paper industry as a whole, has been working at full capacity. The river drive has commenced and this company states that supplies of pulp-wood will be sufficient for this winter's operations.

Major effects of plant expansion and increased production on employment are yet to be felt because construction work is either not yet started or is incomplete. Overall reported employment in manufacturing shows a healthy 10.3 per cent gain from April 1, 1946.

As at April 1, 1947, manufacturing employment in this city represented 89 per cent of total reported employment. This compares with 53 per cent for all of Canada at the same date, and 63 per cent for Montreal.

Thus future employment levels in this city hinge chiefly on the level of prosperity in manufacturing industry which is mostly aluminum, chemicals, plastics, pulp and paper, and textile manufacturing groups.

### Sherbrooke

Owing to a general vacation period in manufacturing plants beginning June 28, employment will slide downward for several weeks. All job referrals will be held up until July 14. Labour supply is inadequate in all local industry. The local employment office will shortly launch a recruiting campaign for 200 men and 200 women urgently required by Sherbrooke industry. The shortage of female textile workers is expected to become more stringent when a new silk mill commences operations this fall.

There is still a heavy demand for skilled labour in the secondary iron and steel industry. A few tool makers have been obtained for the Canadian Ingersoll Rand Co., through clearance orders, but this represents

only a small percentage of their requirements for skilled help, especially for night shifts.

In the textile division, great difficulty is being experienced in obtaining both male and female help for night shifts. One textile company is changing the hours on the night shift from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. to 3 to 11 p.m. in an endeavour to secure workers.

Construction work in general is substantially behind the corresponding period last year due to the inclement spring. In addition, the high price of materials and labour, combined with shortages of both, apparently is discouraging any action on the part of many prospective builders.

Retail trade is very brisk and the demand for qualified sales persons is strong, with no qualified applicants available.

Male and female placements of graduates and vacation-time students from local schools have been numerous. A large number of students applied to the local office for work this year.

### Three Rivers

Manufacturing employment in Three Rivers is concentrated in two industries - pulp and paper manufacturing which comprises 44 per cent of total reported manufacturing, and textiles (predominately cotton goods manufacturing), employment in which is 34 per cent of total manufacturing. Lesser industries in descending order of importance are: secondary iron and steel products, 11.2 per cent; non-ferrous metal products, 5.6; and food products, 1.0 per cent.

During the past six months manufacturing employment has increased 3 per cent, but unplaced applicants now are at the post-war peak.

A bright spot in the employment picture in this area is the recent purchase by two English firms of a vacant war plant at Cap de la Madelaine, which lies directly across the St. Maurice River from Three Rivers. This plant will manufacture chemicals, oils, rubber and metals, especially zinc oxide. It is expected that preliminary production will commence toward the end of August, at which time 200 male workers will be hired. The work force will be gradually increased to about 1,000.

### Valleyfield

With the recent improvement in the weather, agricultural activity has shown a marked increase. The local supply of labour has been virtually exhausted and requests for Polish veterans are becoming more numerous.

Hiring activity in the textile industry is temporarily at a standstill, while the inventory-taking and holiday period is in effect. Recruiting for spinners, weavers, and unskilled workers will be resumed at the end of July. Other manufacturing industries in the area, namely foundries, chemical plants, distilling, and sash and door manufacturing, are operating at normal capacity. Demand for labour is readily met.

The construction industry is very active at present, although a lay-off of 200 labourers and carpenters is expected shortly when a large building project is completed. Approximately 100 of these men will

be absorbed by other projects now underway.

Hotels, restaurants, laundries and other service industries are experiencing great difficulty in obtaining sufficient labour, owing to higher wages offered in other local industry.

#### ONTARIO REGION....

Registered demand for labour still exceeds number of job applicants--Despite a rise of 2,000 during June, the number of job seekers registered with N.E.S. is substantially below the number of reported job openings. Vacancies for men are 5,400 above the number of male job registrants, and vacancies for women are 4,600 above the number of female unplaced applicants.

The rise in unplaced applicants is mainly a composite of two factors; the large influx of students into the labour market in June, and the increased registration of those seeking seasonal work.

Labour shortage in agriculture--The unusually heavy agricultural labour demand stems mainly from the delay in farm work by the unfavourable spring, a heavy hay crop, and good fall wheat prospects. Although the transfer of western harvesters began in the last week of June, the numbers arriving have been disappointing. The seriousness of the labour situation has brought an appeal to anyone who is available to turn out for farm work.

Increased mining production dependent on labour supply--Great efforts are being made by both precious and base metal mining companies to secure labour; any improvement in production directly depends on expanding employment. However, the scarcity of experienced miners, the lack of physically fit men to work as beginners, and the inadequate housing situation in the mining camps make it exceedingly difficult to enlarge the industry's working force.

Immigration to help solve labour shortage in primary industries--The need for labour in the primary industries is reflected in demands for the immigration of potential workers from Europe. The arrival of Dutch farmers in June, and the previous entry of the various groups of Polish veterans, have helped the agricultural labour situation to some extent. It has recently been announced that some 1,500 European displaced persons will be brought to Canada by three pulp and paper companies early in August for work in the bush. The working out of these schemes for the import of labour will be watched with much interest; their success will probably result in an increasing number of such plans.

#### Brantford

A high level of manufacturing employment was maintained during June. Production in the heavy machinery industry is considerably higher than at this time last year, and the material supply situation has shown a marked improvement lately. The payroll at Massey-Harris now tops any previous employment peak since the foundation of the plant. This company has imported over 500 men from the Maritimes during the past few months. Together with students working for the summer months, these men have filled the majority of



of openings for unskilled and semi-skilled labour. Only skilled tradesmen are needed by the agricultural implement manufacturing industry - tool and die makers and metal patternmakers are most urgently required.

Other manufacturing industries in the area continue active with a substantial labour demand. The shortage of workers is particularly evident in the textile manufacturing industry, where comparatively low wages are a handicap towards bringing in outside labour.

In the construction industry, the value of building permits issued during the first six months of 1947 was \$536,585, a sizable drop from the \$872,904 figure for the same period last year. The volume of public works projects and commercial building compares well with that of last year, but private house construction has fallen back considerably in 1947.

#### Hamilton

The end of June saw a decided diminishing of labour demand in the Hamilton labour market area. This was chiefly the result of slowdowns in manufacturing industry, as many firms were cutting down their staffs and halting placement activity for the holiday period.

Farm labour requirements are also decreasing. The need for help has not lessened, but job openings have been adequately filled by students, Polish and Dutch immigrants, Maritimers and Westerners. Farmers report that for the first time in years sufficient labour is available.

In the construction industry, many vacancies for heavy labourers are being filled by workers temporarily laid-off from manufacturing plants. There still remains a decided shortage of skilled tradesmen and labourers in this industry. Students looking for work for the summer months would be willing to accept these jobs, but few have the required skills or physical qualifications.

Hamilton's textile industry is seriously handicapped by labour shortages. Some textile mills have taken on students for the summer months, thus temporarily alleviating the shortage. Others have been successful in bringing in workers from the Maritime provinces. However, long term prospects for obtaining sufficient labour for this industry (at least while overall employment conditions are good) are not hopeful.

#### Kingston

The labour market situation in Kingston is good, although slight recessions in manufacturing industry have been noted during the past month. Although the number of unplaced applicants is large in comparison to the number of vacancies on file, the majority of the former are teen-aged boys and girls, looking for summer employment. Further, there is a sizable number of male unplaced applicants over fifty years of age.

The Canadian Locomotive Company released 250 men during June. A substantial proportion of these are skilled machinists, fitters, welders and sheet metal workers. Material shortages caused the lay-off, but it is expected to be only a temporary measure.

The Kingston Shipbuilding Company is not very busy at present and hiring activity here is nil.

Production at Canadian Industries Ltd. (Nylon Division), has again been stepped up, after the temporary lull during May. Hiring activity has been resumed although employees of this company are still on a 40-hour week.

Volume of private housing construction in Kingston is well below last year's level. A number of large industrial building projects are nearing completion, while contracts for a nurses' residence and new wing for the Hotel Dieu Hospital are to be awarded in the near future. Demand for carpenters and stone masons is fairly strong. Heavy labourers are in short supply.

#### Kitchener - Waterloo

Kitchener is sharing in the general high level of employment in evidence across the Dominion. Orders for workers are far in excess of applicants. This situation applies to manufacturing industry, mercantile concerns, offices, and agriculture. The overall employment picture in Kitchener - Waterloo has never been better. The only persons unemployed in this area are those classed as extreme cases, being totally inadapted to job vacancies.

From the standpoint of employers the picture is not so bright. Most industries have been working with a deficiency of labour for many months, with no relief in sight.

All rubber plants are operating at capacity but are unable to increase production because of a scarcity of both male and female labour. All these companies have been affected by new wage negotiations which have been on an amicable basis; no interruption of work has taken place.

Scarcity of raw materials, together with labour shortage, handicaps some industries. This applies particularly to the textile and furniture manufacturing fields.

Production in some iron and steel plants is governed by the amount of labour available. Many skilled and semi-skilled workers are required, particularly for wire spring, and punch press operations.

While general industrial construction remains steady, domestic building has slowed down substantially. High prices for domestic construction have produced a buyers' resistance in the hope that building prices will recede. There is a heavy demand for all skilled and semi-skilled workers in construction trades, with few applicants available.

#### London

Employers in the heavy manufacturing category report a continued tightening of supplies of pig and scrap iron with prices soaring on the limited quantities available. However, there are no signs of operations being curtailed, and production is being maintained at a close-to-capacity level.

Radio and refrigerator manufacturing plants are handicapped by shortages of essential material supplies. Indications are that the present situation will show little improvement before October.

In the construction industry, rising labour and material costs are reflected in the slackening of housing construction, particularly of houses for rental accommodation. In general, the labour situation is easier than it was at this time last year.



The current upswing in industrial activity is seen in the steady increase in the use of hydro-electric power during the past year. The peak hydro load for May, 1947 in the London area was 37,000 kilowatts a 7 per cent increase over the May, 1946 high of 34,600 kilowatts.

Labour shortages persist in almost every industry, but are more marked in the textile, construction, and service industries.

#### Niagara Falls

Employment conditions in the area are very favourable. Heavy tourist traffic, a high level of employment in local manufacturing industry, combined with increasing activity in building trades, have resulted in an almost complete absorption of suitable labour. Remaining unplaced applicants on file at the National Employment Service offices are for the most part over-age or unsuited for almost any type of employment.

Five of the major employers in the area are in the chemical or abrasives manufacturing class. Present hiring in these plants is limited to replacements for normal labour turnover, but when additions to three of the aforementioned plants are completed in the near future, labour demand will increase.

The continued shortage of steel has affected local manufacturing to a great extent, causing periodic temporary lay-offs. At least ten industries whose production relies on a continuous supply of steel and zinc have been affected by shortages.

Two local canning factories have placed orders for approximately 250 women to work on the strawberry pack. This work will last about three weeks, and after a week's shut down, cherry canning operations will commence, requiring the same number of women. Preparations now are being made to locate women to work in the canning factories during the coming tomato and peach canning season. It is anticipated that 950 female workers will be required.

#### Oshawa

The past month saw little change in the employment situation in the automobile industry. Employment levels at General Motors are static and no new hiring will take place until at least September. Approximately 4,000 employees will be laid-off for the week beginning July 25 to facilitate stock taking. Immediately following this the holiday period will commence. Consequently the men will be idle for a period of three weeks, returning to work on August 11. Material still present a problem in the automobile industry, for, although the quantity for supplies received has improved somewhat, the poor quality of material is causing production difficulties.

Lay-offs have occurred in the plastics and glass manufacturing industries caused mainly by shortages of material. In one case, however, over-production necessitated a staff reduction.

Excellent weather conditions during the past two weeks have resulted in the pea crop maturing earlier than was expected. Canning operations will commence around July 7. It is anticipated that considerable difficulty will be experienced in meeting labour requirements because of low wages offering in the canning factories.



### Peterborough

Employment conditions in Peterborough are exceedingly good and demand for workers has increased since last month.

All high school pupils, both boys and girls, 16 years of age or over, wanting to work for the summer, have been placed. Some under that age have been placed in jobs, but factories in the city do not employ help under 16 years of age.

Western harvesters are making their appearance and, although the need for their services is not so great as was expected because of inclement weather, all prospective employers have expressed their willingness to hire them.

Construction work is booming - industrial plant expansion is progressing while present plants, with few exceptions, work at peak capacity. Major projects are the new plant for Canadian Nashua Paper, and a two million dollar expansion program by General Electric. The Peterborough Cance Co. Ltd. is contemplating the construction of an addition to the present factory. Construction work, other than industrial, calls for the building of many houses, alterations to a large number of others and the construction of a \$1,150,000 civic hospital. Construction firms are badly in need of labourers, but lack of living accommodation blocks the importation of workers from outside the city.

### Sault Ste. Marie

Labour market conditions are remarkably good; present employment at the Algoma Steel Corporation alone exceeds total reported employment in all industries in September 1939.

Although Algoma Steel represents about 65 per cent of reported employment, the pulp and paper industry (Abitibi Power and Paper), provides work for thousands of loggers, who are not included in the employment coverage. Consequently the pulp and paper industry, together with logging, assumes greater importance as an employer of labour than reported remployment figures show. Thus, when considering employment on an area basis, it is well to keep in mind the large number of loggers employed, particularly in the wintertime, and make adequate allowances for this.

Virtually all skilled and semi-skilled applicants have been placed in jobs. Skilled and semi-skilled requirements in most industries are light at present. However, the construction industry could absorb many skilled carpenters if they were available.

Labourers are in demand in the iron and steel, mining, and construction industries.

In view of the fact that there were only 71 male applicants on file at June 26, it can readily be seen why transfers-in from other areas are necessary in order to supply labour for logging and railway maintenance work. As at June 26, 567 pulp cutters were still required. The supply of river drivers is adequate to meet all requirements. Total vacancies at June 26 called for 957 men.

Employment opportunities for women in this area are very light because of the nature of industry here. This accounts for the fairly large number of female applicants - 280 at June 26.

### St. Catharines

A condition of extremely high employment prevails in the St. Catharines labour market area. Despite the fact that a large number of persons have recently been added to the labour force (i.e., high school and university students, Maritimers, Polish veterans and Dutch immigrants) vacancies have outnumbered job applicants since the end of April. Unplaced applicants on file include a large proportion of persons who, because of age, disability, or other qualitative factors are practically impossible to place, even in times of an acute labour shortage.

The current high level of employment is a composite of a number of economic factors, among which are the following: (1) practically all manufacturing industries in the area are working at close to maximum production limited only by their inability to secure sufficient labour (2) an unusually active construction program is being carried out this summer and (3) a high level of income and increased supplies of many lines of merchandise is reflected in increased activity and employment in wholesale and retail trade and services.

The one dark spot in an otherwise favourable employment picture is the fact that this year's crops will be well below average owing to adverse weather throughout the spring and early summer. This will mean a reduced income among farmers. Further, the shortage of grain will indirectly affect production in meat packing plants and dairies during the coming winter months.

### Sudbury

The most up-to-date, if recurrent, news concerning the nickel industry is that it still requires about 600 labourers, mostly for mines. Total vacancies for unskilled labourers in the area call for some 1,000 men. There are, however, still some 425 men registered for employment in the Sudbury area, half of whom are classified as unskilled. In view of the outstanding labour demand which has persisted for such a long time, it is apparent that most of these men are not adaptable to the nickel industry. The high physical standards required limit the placement of men. This is one reason why labour is plentiful for extensive saw-mill and railway maintenance work, while jobs in Inco go begging.

The construction industry, which already employs a high percentage of unskilled labour, still requires many men. Construction work in the near future will be very extensive. Aside from the construction of a new smelter, and a housing project by Inco, another large building project will soon get underway in this area. The Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission is starting to build a nineteen million dollar power house on the Mississagi river, north of Thessalon.

However, even if the nickel mining industry is placed in a competitive position with the construction industry, for securing labour, wage rates will be no handicap. The average hourly rate of pay for construction labourers in fourteen principal Canadian cities is about 65 cents per hour, ranging from 55 cents in the Maritimes to 80 cents per hour in B.C. The base rate for surface labourers in the nickel industry is 72 cents per hour, while the base rate for underground labourers is 83 cents per hour; these are 1946 wage rates.



### Toronto

Manufacturing as a whole maintained a high level of employment throughout June although recessions were noted in some industries.

Employment conditions in the heavy metal manufacturing industry showed a considerable improvement during the past month. The supply of raw, semi-processed and processed material has increased to such an extent that manufacturers' orders for labour now by far exceed the supply and it has been necessary to import labour from outside points. One large machinery manufacturing plant alone took an additional 500 workers between June 1 and June 23.

Chemicals, drugs, tobacco, rubber goods, textiles and electrical apparatus manufacturing also report increased employment during June.

Counteracting these gains to some extent, meat packing, printing and publishing are seasonally slack. Hiring activity in the furniture and the novelty leather goods manufacturing industries is also down owing to lessened consumer demand and a consequent slackening of production.

### Welland

Currently, the majority of firms in the manufacturing category are feeling the effects of either material or labour shortages.

During June, production levels at the Woods Manufacturing Company (secondary textiles) continued below normal owing to lack of skilled help and shortages of raw materials.

Fifty furnace workers are required at the Electro Metallurgical Company of Canada Ltd., although the transfer-in of workers from Nova Scotia has relieved the shortage to some extent. Because of the acute lack of suitable labour, four units at this plant have been closed down temporarily. The 150 men affected have been absorbed by other departments.

Lack of manpower has also curtailed production at the Joseph Stokes Rubber Company. Here the difficulty of obtaining workers may be attributed to the fact that applicants are unwilling to accept jobs offering until the termination of the summer vacation period.

With one or two exceptions, all firms in the primary and secondary iron and steel manufacturing category report steadily improving material supply deliveries. As a result, production in these firms is being stepped up and payrolls substantially augmented.

### Windsor

Shortages of materials have once again slowed down production in Windsor's automotive industry. Although placement activity in this field kept up at a normal pace during the first part of June, the end of the month saw several plants in the automobile and parts manufacturing industry closed down temporarily because of depleted material stock piles. This, in turn, is the result of a recent curtailment of steel deliveries from the U.S., where the soft coal miners' walkout has slowed down production in the primary and secondary steel manufacturing industry.

The Ford Motor Company released its staff for one week commencing June 27. Chrysler Corporation employees had a corresponding seven-day



enforced vacation and a number of smaller plants in the area have been similarly affected by material shortages.

Despite the fact that migration into Windsor is heavy (average during the past three months--168 per month) the number of unplaced applicants is slowly but steadily diminishing. Although the number of female unplaced applicants rose slightly during June, male job seekers registering at the N.E.S. office showed a decline of 150 between June 1 and July 1. Construction, transportation, and service are the principal reception industries.

#### PRAIRIE REGION....

Heavy demand for agricultural labour developing--Although the end of June is early to make any estimate, it is expected that substantial numbers of men will be required from outside the region for harvest labour. Crop growth is two to three weeks late throughout the region and, as yet, Manitoba is the only province in which the demand for farm labour has been heavy. In Saskatchewan, orders for farm hands have been filled with little delay; the arrival of two groups of Polish veterans prevented the development of any present farm labour shortage. The demand in Alberta has been fairly light.

The transfer of farm workers to Ontario for haying and early harvesting has not been extensive. Construction work, highway, telephone and railroad maintenance programs are competing for the labour which, in other years, would have been available for farm work.

Dairy production up--There has been a marked increase in various areas throughout the region in the production of milk, cream, eggs and butter. It is reported that, because of the lateness of the season, July, rather than June, will be the peak production month for butter.

Employment in flour mills is steady, with little labour turnover. Most mills are busy on export orders.

Slight upswing in grain handling--An average  $7\frac{1}{2}$  million bushels of grain per week have been shipped from the Lakehead during June. A reported 17 million bushels are in storage. There has been some increase in the unloading of cars, and a further increase is expected, since orders are being placed for additional help. Some wheat has been moved to Churchill, but heavy shipments have not yet begun.

#### Edmonton

The level of unplaced applicants in the Edmonton employment office reflects employment conditions in a very large area. Men are being placed in jobs anywhere from Yellowknife to the Peace River district in British Columbia.

Demand for farm help is not so high as this time last year. There are some orders on hand with wages for single men ranging from \$60 to \$80 a month, plus board and room. These rates do not include the harvest, at which time wages are higher.

Summer logging is continuing but men are not anxious to work in the woods during the hot weather. Wages offered locally range from \$80 to \$100 a month plus board, and from 55 to 60 cents per hour on an hourly basis. In the Berwyn area (Peace River), pulpwood cutting is underway and men working on a contract basis are said to earn from \$8.00 to \$12.00 per day.

There is a demand for experienced workers in all local saw-mills; wages offered--55 cents per hour. This wage does not appeal to many men and as a result a substantial number of them are going to B.C., where the hourly rate is 77 cents, with the charge for board and room the same as in the Edmonton district--\$1.20 per day.

Meat packing plants and flour mills are a trifle more active than last month and some labour is being absorbed by the firms who are packing and loading for export.

The railways all require men for extra gang work and many husky students have been placed in this work. In addition, local saw-mills have absorbed as many students as possible.

#### Fort William - Port Arthur

There is a heavy shortage of labour in this area at the present time. At June 26, there were only 485 male applicants while vacancies called for 3,337 men.

The river drive is in full swing and many men were retained from winter cutting to perform this work. There is still a heavy demand for experienced cutters; immediate requirements call for 2,000 men, with no labour available. It is felt that immigration schemes now under consideration may be the only solution to this labour need. The number of loggers hired through the employment office is small, as most men prefer to hire directly with the contractor.

A total of 80 miners and 30 muckers are needed in the Little Long Lac area.

Construction projects in the area require an additional 2,500 men. The two most outstanding cases are the H.M.P.C. Schreiber Dam project which now employs 600 men and requires 900 more, and the Long Lac Pulp & Paper project which employs 800 men at present, and requires 900 more. Three other construction projects now employ 400 men and require another 500. Turnover on the Hydro Electric project and the Long Lac Pulp & Paper job is unduly high, partly because much of the work is a long way from town.

Grain arrivals from the west keep local grain elevators operating at about 50 per cent of their capacity. Elevators are working only one eight-hour shift; by fall two or three eight-hour shifts will probably be in effect. Saw and planer mills are operating at capacity and all skilled men have been placed in employment. Pulp and paper mills are operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week; most labour requirements have been met.

In other manufacturing, work has slackened at the Port Arthur Ship-building Company partly because of lack of materials for the construction of barges, and partly because there is very little repair work at the present time. The Canadian Car and Foundry Company now is maintaining a steady payroll of 1,250 employees. A new two million dollar contract has been obtained, calling for 114 vehicles for the South African Government.

### Winnipeg

With employment in manufacturing equivalent to the war-time peak in 1944, and the number of unplaced applicants down to 7,361, the employment situation in this western city is buoyant. Since the seasonal low in the number of unplaced applicants in 1946 was not reached until fall, coinciding with peak agricultural employment activity, the number of unplaced applicants can be expected to decline still further.

At the moment, the foodstuffs and railway rolling stock industries are tied for first place with respect to employment in manufacturing groups. Textiles is a close runner-up for third position. These three industries together represent about 64 per cent of all manufacturing employment. At the seasonal peak, however, employment in the foodstuffs industry is much higher than in railway rolling stock production.

The production of railway rolling stock in C.P.R. and C.N.R. shops is not only a major source of employment, but provides a higher annual payroll than any other manufacturing industry. The current annual payroll borders on ten million dollars, nearly twice that of 1939. Thus this industry is an important factor in the Winnipeg economy.

Employment in the foodstuffs industry (principally slaughtering and meat packing) at September 1, 1946 was double the level at the same date in 1939. At November 1, 1946, the seasonal peak, employment passed the 11,000 mark.

At the present time a very high per cent of production is for export. This was also the case during the war years, when export markets absorbed from 75 to 80 per cent of total production. Value of slaughtering and meat packing produce increased from \$27 million in 1939 to \$120 million in 1944.

Employment in textiles manufacturing has expanded from some 500 employees in 1939, to 5,200 at the present time. Production shows a corresponding increase. In one line, overalls and work shirts, production is greater than in any other Canadian city, and forms 20 per cent of the Canadian total. In another line, women's coats and suits, Winnipeg ranks after Montreal and Toronto, accounting for 16 per cent of total Canadian production.

### PACIFIC REGION....

Decline in unplaced applicants continues--The number of unplaced applicants in the Pacific region showed a further decrease in June. Vancouver, New Westminster and Victoria continue to carry the major load of job seekers--88 per cent of the applicants were concentrated in these three urban centres at the end of June.

Threat of a general lumber strike ended--At the beginning of July, after nine weeks of negotiation, the dispute between coast logging operators and the I.W.A. was settled. The agreement, retroactive to June 20, the date the last contract ended, specified a 12½-cent hourly wage boost across the board and a 40-hour week for the industry. New wage levels being the minimum hourly pay for "male common labour" to 95 cents.



Further negotiation between the I.W.A. and Northern Interior, Central Interior and Southern Interior operators are proceeding.

Extensive construction work throughout the region--The demand for all types of construction labour continues heavy, with the greater proportion of the jobs outside the urban areas. It is reported that the larger industrial projects do not seem to be faced with either the material or labour shortages, as are the small contractors who build the domestic dwellings and small business structures.

The slump in home building in Vancouver is getting worse. To the end of May, home building was less than half that of a year ago--1,090 dwelling permits were issued, calling for structures valued at \$4,121,000, as compared with 2,243 permits for dwellings valued at \$9,914,650 in the same period in 1946.

Pulp and paper industry plans heavy capital expenditure--The pulp and paper industry in B.C. has undertaken extensive plant expansion and improvements and expects a continuation of capital investment in the next few years. Since 1942 there has been an increase in total investment in equipment, housing, and forest land from \$70 to \$96 millions, and the industry anticipates a similar increase over the next four years. Already, the \$7 million Bloedel, Stewart and Welch pulp plant at Port Alberni and the \$1,600,000 plant addition of the New Westminster Paper Company are in the final stages of construction. Preliminary work has now begun on the Celanese plant at Prince Rupert with a \$400,000 rock drilling program.

#### Vancouver

Unplaced applicants have recorded a continuous drop in number from March 1 to the present time. From June 1, to June 26, the number of unplaced applicants declined by 1,495.

The general manpower shortage continues strong. Construction, sawmill, and peat plant workers are required, whereas men applying for this work are very young, inexperienced, or physically unfit.

While there is a decided decrease in the amount of private building underway, there is sufficient work for all skilled construction tradesmen. Out-of-town jobs predominate in construction and the orders for such work are filled only with extreme difficulty.

Orders for skilled and unskilled workers for mines are numerous but it is almost impossible to meet this demand. One large firm in the interior of B.C. requires 300 workers, skilled and unskilled.

Negotiations between the union and operators in the logging industry have been settled amicably and now many men who refrained from taking jobs in outlying districts because of the strike threat will be taking jobs in the logging industry. However, labour demand will probably be light until after the mid-summer lay-off.

Unskilled labourers, in most cases are not applying to the local office for employment but rather are tending to find employment on their own. In this way, employers are filling their labour requirements with men who fail to register with the local office but have the necessary qualifications. Thus, while there are about 2,500 men registered as light labourers, these men are definitely hard to place in jobs. On the other hand, good type heavy labourers have no trouble in finding employment and consequently do not appear as unplaced applicants so long as industry requires their services.

# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

## A Key to the Area Tables

The area tables present statistical data on the labour market in 38 selected areas. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in each area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

The areas are classified according to the number of unplaced applicants registered with the local National Employment Service office. The classification is based on a ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 wage and salary workers at work.

An "unplaced applicant" at any particular moment is a person who is registered at an office of the National Employment Service who has either not been placed in a job by the employment service or for whom the employment service has had no notification of his obtaining a job on his own. It is obvious, therefore, that the number of unplaced applicants are not indicative of the total volume of unemployment in any area. In the first place, not all workers who are seeking jobs will register with N.E.S. It is probable that most of those covered by unemployment insurance will do so in order to collect unemployment insurance benefits if their period of unemployment is sufficiently long. But many workers, do not come within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Act. Second, some workers who register with N.E.S. may be wanting merely to change jobs. At the time of registration, therefore, these workers would be already employed. Third, employment service regulations provide that when a worker registers for a job another contact need not necessarily be made with him by the employment service until 30 days have passed. If the worker obtains a job on his own during this period, the employment service may not be notified of this. In other words a worker may still be counted as an unplaced applicant despite the fact that he now has a job. Finally a worker may register for work at more than one local employment office. When this occurs there is the possibility that the same person may be counted twice as an unplaced applicant.

These qualifications in the meaning of the term "unplaced applicant" should be clearly borne in mind by any person who makes use of the term. They are due to the fact that the principal function of the National Employment Service is to match jobs to workers, not to collect statistics. But they do not render such statistics useless. At present, there is no statistical information available on the total volume of unemployment by area. This being the case, the number of unplaced workers registered with a local N.E.S. office is a very important fact to consider when evaluating labour market conditions in a particular area. It is in this spirit that figures on unplaced applicants are presented in the following tables.



In order to ascertain the relative level of unplaced applicants in various local office areas, this figure has been related to an estimate of the total number of wage and salary workers at work in each area. In other words, the number of unplaced applicants is compared with the size of the particular area as measured by the number of wage and salary workers at work.

In addition these ratios have been consolidated into four groups denoting four different general labour market situations:

Group I--Areas in which there are more than 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the Mid-Thirties.

Group II--Areas in which there are between 150 and 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group is characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III--Areas in which there are from 50 to 150 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV--Areas in which there are under 50 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Favourable, in the sense that it is comparable to conditions during the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be clearly understood that the above ratio is only a general method of classifying labour market conditions as they are pictured by the local N.E.S. office. The ratio attempts to do no more than that. It attempts to do just that because it is felt that labour market conditions in a particular local employment service office are an important fact in the overall employment situation.

The area tables present additional material relative to the current demand - supply picture. Definitions of some of the terms used are given below:

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities insofar as employers do not report vacancies to the employment service. "Jobs available during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but should indicate the trend of labour demand in comparison with figures for previous periods.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the employment service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer to N.E.S.

Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Pointe-aux-Trembles, St. Paul

1<sup>o</sup>Ermitte, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

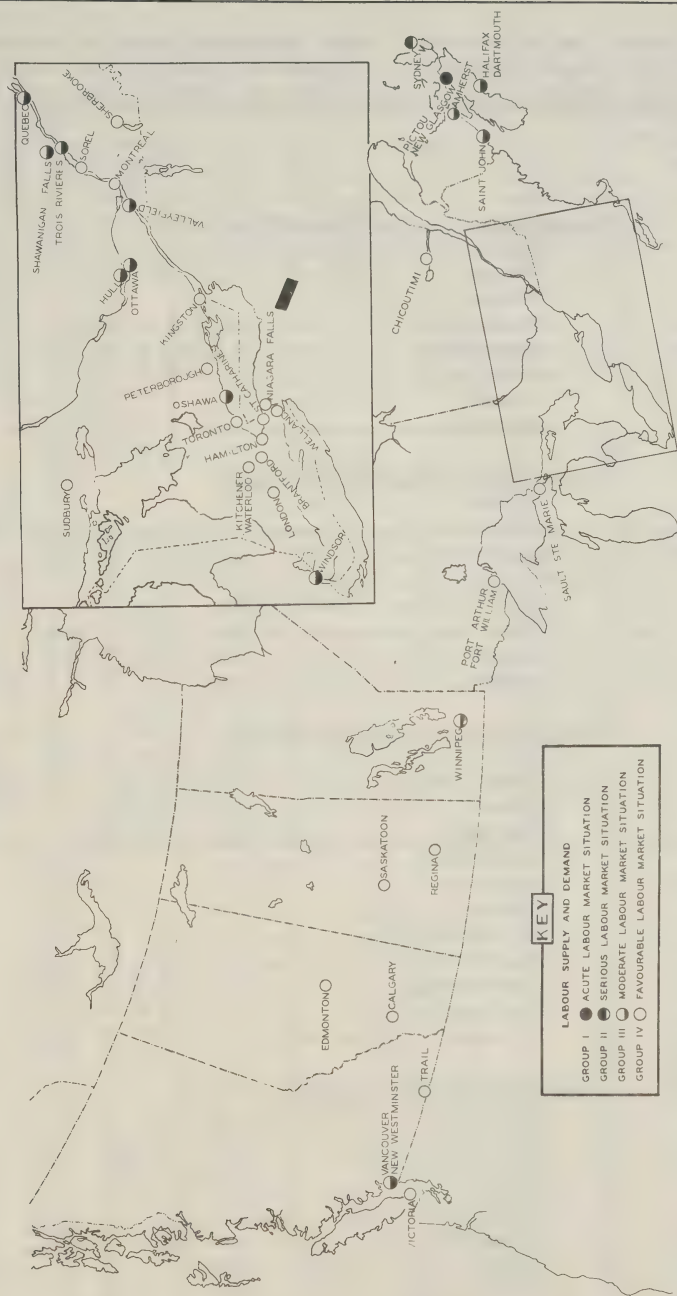
Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney,

Sydney Mines.

Calgary includes: Black Diamond.



# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT JULY 3, 1947



KEY	
LABOUR SUPPLY AND DEMAND	
GROUP I	● ACUTE LABOUR MARKET SITUATION
GROUP II	● SERIOUS LABOUR MARKET SITUATION
GROUP III	○ MODERATE LABOUR MARKET SITUATION
GROUP IV	○ FAVOURABLE LABOUR MARKET SITUATION

Table I--Index of Areas Analyzed in this Section

Note: The thirty-eight areas below are arranged according to the number of unplaced applicants in each as at July 3, in descending order. Comparable ratings are also given for two previous selected dates.

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		May 29, 1947	July 3, 1947	June 27, 1946
	<u>Population of 100,000 and over</u>			
54	Quebec.....	III	III	II
58	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
61	Windsor.....	III	III	III
61	Winnipeg.....	III	III	III
63	Vancouver.....	III	III	III
56	Hamilton.....	IV	IV	III
60	Toronto.....	IV	IV	IV
53	Montreal.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 50,000 to 100,000</u>			
52	Sydney.....	I	II	II
51	Halifax.....	III	III	III
52	Saint John.....	III	III	III
62	Calgary.....	IV	IV	III
56	Fort William - Port Arthur.	IV	IV	III
62	Edmonton.....	IV	IV	IV
61	Regina.....	IV	IV	IV
57	London.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 25,000 to 50,000</u>			
53	Hull.....	II	III	III
55	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
58	Oshawa.....	III	III	II
57	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
63	Victoria.....	IV	IV	III
62	Saskatoon.....	IV	IV	IV
60	Sudbury.....	IV	IV	III
59	St. Catharines.....	IV	IV	III
56	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
59	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
54	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
57	Kitchener - Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of under 25,000</u>			
52	New Glasgow - Pictou.....	I	I	I
51	Amherst.....	II	III	II
54	Shawinigan Falls.....	III	III	III
55	Valleyfield.....	III	III	I
60	Welland.....	IV	IV	II
53	Chicoutimi.....	IV	IV	II
63	Trail.....	IV	IV	III
55	Sorel.....	IV	IV	III
58	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	IV
59	Sault Ste. Marie.....	IV	IV	IV

Item	Canada			Amherst			Halifax		
	June (x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June (x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June (x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	40	44	66	149	189	240	89	96	60
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	105,740	97,060	118,565	21	7	52	1,124	1,436	1,804
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	123,274	139,650	115,544	55	149	244	984	1,231	1,984
3. Total jobs available during month.....	229,014	236,710	273,709	76	156	296	2,108	2,667	3,788
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	63,852	64,956	71,702	33	123	194	564	703	865
% casual placements.....	12.2	12.0	8.7	-	-	-	14.2	15.8	3.8
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	95,767	105,740	120,922	40	21	73	967	1,124	1,713
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	127,065	157,537	211,029	530	715	951	3,736	4,118	2,488
% female.....	25.4	21.7	19.1	9.1	9.5	21.8	15.6	13.6	12.9
% veterans.....	23.4	33.2	34.3	28.9	46.0	43.2	37.3	43.6	43.9
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more..	16.9	25.7	25.0	25.8	43.1	33.6	32.2	37.3	26.4
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	53.8	52.0	42.4	66.6	57.4	35.3	49.4	49.9	51.1
% service & other.....	15.4	17.4	14.0	14.6	13.2	4.8	34.4	32.1	35.8
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	14.7	14.3	19.2	14.6	22.1	46.9	7.9	7.3	4.4
% unskilled.....	16.1	16.3	24.4	4.2	7.3	13.0	8.3	10.7	8.7
2. Applicants registered during month.....	119,695	115,217	152,822	187	156	227	1,830	1,939	2,173
3. Total workers available during month...	246,750	272,754	363,831	117	871	1,178	5,566	6,057	4,661
% referred.....	42.2	39.2	30.8	24.8	20.1	22.8	19.5	23.8	33.7
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	114,493	127,065	179,281	418	530	671	3,457	3,736	2,519
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	2,885	2,865	2,709	-	2,800	2,805	-	38,800	41,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	35.91	31.68	-	-	-	-	33.40	28.78

Note:—Figures for Canada're wage and salary workers are in thousands.

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	New Glasgow & Pictou			Sydney			Saint John		
	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	328(a)	551	314	231(a)	618	206	68	66	90
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	110	129	59	70	101	469	646	694	901
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	545	543	674	649	658	1,420	900	964	1,243
3. Total jobs available during month.....	655	672	737	719	759	1,889	1,546	1,658	2,144
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	514	512	586	609	608	1,356	557	629	654
% casual placements.....	6.8	11.1	2.2	22.5	19.2	4.6	12.6	16.4	5.4
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	65	110	63	72	70	385	576	646	913
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	2,370	2,751	2,650	5,434	5,897	4,559	1,875	1,581	2,276
% female.....	10.1	10.3	9.3	11.4	10.3	11.5	8.4	9.5	6.1
% veterans.....	35.6	48.5	45.5	35.0	45.8	54.4	50.6	58.8	56.8
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	34.1	44.2	41.2	31.3	42.8	47.9	37.9	51.0	39.5
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	62.1	57.5	64.0	72.0	71.8	72.2	57.6	60.7	50.7
% service & other.....	17.9	19.1	10.5	11.9	14.4	14.3	10.8	15.3	19.6
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	5.4	4.6	6.1	2.1	2.1	8.0	6.3	6.7	3.6
% unskilled.....	14.6	18.8	19.4	14.0	11.7	5.5	25.3	17.3	26.1
2. Applicants registered during month.....	961	799	1,117	1,766	1,416	1,768	1,410	1,764	1,550
3. Total workers available during month.....	3,331	3,590	3,767	7,200	7,313	6,327	3,285	3,345	3,826
% referred.....	26.2	24.7	17.0	17.7	16.9	24.1	26.3	27.1	25.2
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	1,799	2,370	2,576	4,352	5,434	4,019	1,936	1,875	2,261
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	4,300	8,200	-	8,800	19,500	-	28,500	25,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31.45	28.20

x Figures subject to revision.

(a) The coal mining strike, which caused a drop in employment of 1,200 in New Glasgow - Pictou, and 10,000 in Sydney, was fully terminated by the middle of June.

[illegible]

x Figures subject to revision

Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)	106	128	164	61	65	77	10	10	17
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month...	1,116	1,064	1,576	49	65	21	338	256	509
2. Vacancies notified during month....	2,667	1,901	2,387	182	274	373	577	618	851
3. Total jobs available during month....	3,783	2,965	3,963	231	339	394	915	874	1,360
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	1,196	1,128	995	142	179	342	321	351	586
% casual placements.....	0.4	0.2	0.7	-	-	-	10.9	13.1	3.9
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month....	1,845	1,116	1,687	27	49	29	364	338	432
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.	8,543	10,324	13,218	720	840	1,056	207	365	714
% female.....	30.4	26.5	33.9	43.6	39.5	34.5	23.7	17.3	30.7
% veterans.....	12.8	17.9	17.7	4.3	3.1	7.6	10.1	26.0	23.2
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	11.2	15.5	14.3	2.9	2.5	3.6	4.3	18.9	11.3
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales..	37.5	36.9	29.8	40.8	37.3	41.4	46.9	36.5	6.4
% service & other.....	14.5	14.4	13.5	5.7	7.2	8.2	10.2	20.6	4.6
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	18.7	17.8	32.5	40.1	42.8	50.4	30.6	30.2	82.2
% unskilled.....	29.3	30.8	24.2	13.4	12.7	-	12.3	12.7	6.8
2. Applicants registered during month..	3,119	3,107	3,618	398	429	547	574	634	846
3. Total workers available during month	11,662	13,431	16,836	1,118	1,269	1,603	781	999	1,560
% referred.....	21.3	16.4	11.4	14.1	18.4	21.1	72.7	70.7	50.0
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month....	7,108	8,543	10,562	682	720	851	211	207	317
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	66,800	64,400	-	11,100	11,000	-	20,500	18,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	30.23	26.94	-	-	-	-	30.07	25.65

x Figures subject to revision



Item	Sorel			Three Rivers			Valleyfield		
	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	25	33	129	118	110	71	52	74	463
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	115	227	113	214	222	242	476	318	333
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	274	572	494	381	404	930	230	769	172
3. Total jobs available during month.....	389	799	607	595	626	1,172	706	1,087	505
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	189	315	153	173	187	344	190	265	121
% casual placements.....	-	-	-	1.7	16.0	0.6	-	-	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	112	115	72	254	214	236	363	476	334
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	324	409	1,405	3,844	3,735	2,893	465	571	864
% female.....	33.3	24.4	15.0	15.1	15.0	24.7	26.9	24.2	12.5
% veterans.....	4.3	8.1	4.5	12.2	11.4	12.4	7.5	15.4	17.8
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	2.5	5.9	4.1	10.6	10.0	8.6	6.7	12.4	11.2
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	37.1	53.0	45.5	32.0	31.4	23.0	19.2	11.6	25.0
% service & other.....	8.3	13.0	13.7	11.7	12.8	9.2	8.0	8.7	6.5
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	43.5	22.0	19.9	33.2	34.9	50.3	22.4	21.7	37.0
% unskilled.....	11.1	12.0	20.9	23.1	20.9	17.5	50.4	58.0	31.5
2. Applicants registered during month.....	331	580	488	750	671	1,343	305	398	2,218
3. Total workers available during month.....	655	989	1,893	4,594	4,406	4,236	770	969	3,082
% referred.....	37.7	41.2	15.6	10.1	12.8	11.2	27.7	32.6	5.6
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	239	324	970	4,139	3,844	2,585	328	465	2,714
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	9,700	7,500	-	35,000	36,500	-	6,300	5,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	33.31	30.47	-	-	-

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Brantford			Ft. William & Pt. Arthur			Hamilton		
	June (x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June (x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June (x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	17	13	35			141	32	27	59
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	871	811	635	3,663	2,968	4,154	3,417	3,385	2,254
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	865	1,071	1,404	2,115	4,795	5,468	3,574	3,845	4,144
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,736	1,882	2,039	5,778	7,763	9,622	6,991	7,230	6,398
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	516	397	520	917	1,200	1,383	1,820	2,023	1,946
% casual placements.....	3.7	3.3	13.1	1.0	0.2	0.1	14.3	17.2	11.2
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	723	871	772	3,293	3,663	5,516	3,288	3,417	2,640
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month...	225	257	518	1,097	1,627	3,492	2,313	2,499	5,337
% female.....	23.6	25.3	45.0	40.7	33.1	35.7	23.3	24.6	23.6
% veterans.....	11.6	17.5	21.6	11.7	23.5	24.1	30.3	35.3	32.6
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.	6.2	11.3	15.1	3.6	10.0	14.8	12.8	25.3	8.5
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	47.2	46.2	35.3	81.6	79.6	79.0	54.9	51.3	31.5
% service & other.....	18.8	12.3	10.6	8.1	10.8	9.3	14.7	20.8	13.6
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	3.8	9.2	10.7	9.9	9.1	5.8	9.8	10.7	13.7
% unskilled.....	30.2	32.5	43.4	0.4	0.5	5.9	20.6	17.2	41.2
2. Applicants registered during month....	622	732	777	1,325	1,710	2,028	3,535	3,782	4,111
3. Total workers available during month...	847	989	1,295	2,422	3,337	5,520	5,848	6,281	9,448
% referred.....	64.2	48.7	44.9	44.8	43.6	28.0	66.8	63.9	47.1
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	306	225	561	938	1,097	3,226	2,791	2,313	4,807
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	17,900	16,100	-	24,200	22,900	-	86,500	82,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	37.12	34.59	-	36.85	31.34

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Kingston			Kitchener-Waterloo			London		
	June (x)	May	June	June (x)	May	June	June (x)	May	June
	1947	1947	1946	1947	1947	1946	1947	1947	1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	40	40	41	5	4	7	22	18	30
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month....	211	258	378	1,798	1,422	1,675	2,640	2,501	2,603
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	629	611	871	1,146	1,452	1,708	1,981	2,920	3,187
3. Total jobs available during month.....	840	869	1,249	2,944	2,874	3,383	4,621	5,421	5,790
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	435	406	561	429	363	536	1,228	1,145	1,596
% casual placements.....	2.3	3.9	-	-	-	0.2	15.5	14.8	12.3
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	244	211	321	1,286	1,798	1,943	1,636	2,640	1,816
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month....	748	786	642	150	164	203	607	761	921
% female.....	22.6	20.5	21.7	6.7	7.9	11.3	33.3	29.0	15.2
% veterans.....	29.9	46.1	40.8	24.0	32.9	34.0	40.0	36.0	39.2
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.	27.3	35.0	32.6	12.0	12.2	7.9	18.5	17.7	22.6
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales....	58.6	66.5	45.7	90.0	53.8	60.9	46.1	42.5	32.7
% service & other.....	16.0	9.9	14.6	-	23.1	13.0	36.1	38.5	43.1
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	4.7	5.0	4.0	-	15.4	13.1	7.9	6.8	8.5
% unskilled.....	20.7	18.6	35.7	10.0	7.7	13.0	9.9	12.2	15.7
2. Applicants registered during month....	873	861	1,027	529	440	681	1,902	1,496	2,182
3. Total workers available during month..	1,621	1,647	1,669	679	604	884	2,509	2,257	3,103
% referred.....	47.3	44.9	65.5	95.7	98.5	99.9	85.1	86.6	76.5
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	747	748	718	175	150	237	771	607	921
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	18,900	17,700	-	38,100	35,800	-	34,600	31,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	35.17	28.58	-	33.82	30.05

x Figures subject to revision



Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)....	24	21	29	90	90	154	72	80	62
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	378	349	427	575	598	400	1,597	1,355	1,685
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	598	481	779	734	827	834	2,412	2,574	2,718
3. Total jobs available during month.....	976	830	1,206	1,309	1,425	1,234	4,009	3,929	4,403
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	271	264	424	448	504	307	940	888	1,185
% casual placements.....	0.4	3.0	1.2	6.7	3.2	2.0	18.7	6.2	0.3
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	452	378	370	507	575	627	1,413	1,577	1,683
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	324	390	499	1,697	1,648	3,854	4,827	5,351	3,985
% female.....	26.3	27.4	27.5	46.0	48.1	40.7	59.0	52.5	21.8
% veterans.....	15.6	24.6	32.9	19.1	25.7	23.1	18.1	24.2	41.4
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more....	9.6	18.2	23.2	14.1	18.1	20.2	14.4	19.1	31.4
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	51.1	49.6	45.3	44.1	42.7	33.8	86.9	88.7	82.6
% service & other.....	18.2	15.4	14.6	5.6	10.2	6.1	4.7	4.0	6.0
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	6.8	3.4	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.0	5.4	5.2	2.8
% unskilled.....	23.9	31.6	35.0	45.1	41.8	55.1	3.0	2.1	8.6
2. Applicants registered during month.....	501	412	577	1,007	1,187	962	2,598	2,365	2,878
3. Total workers available during month.....	835	802	1,076	2,704	2,835	4,816	7,425	7,716	6,863
% referred.....	52.1	54.7	56.2	30.2	31.3	11.2	28.7	27.1	35.6
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	374	334	480	1,685	1,697	2,594	4,343	4,827	3,632
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	15,900	16,700	-	18,800	16,800	-	60,400	58,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31.23	28.00

x Figures subject to revision

Item	Peter borough			St. Catharines			Sault Ste. Marie		
	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	12	15	33	20	18	56	20	21	28
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled Vacancies, first of month.....	348	344	531	602	763	620	885	948	1,520
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	630	553	848	1,239	1,144	1,210	628	1,022	727
3. Total jobs available during month.....	978	897	1,379	1,841	1,907	1,830	1,513	1,970	2,247
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	498	415	760	706	528	585	385	480	345
% casual placements.....	-	-	-	16.6	1.9	-	-	-	0.3
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	327	348	431	504	602	565	896	885	1,492
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	362	526	768	553	753	1,664	351	404	471
% female.....	7.2	3.4	6.5	42.7	45.3	47.7	81.2	64.6	51.2
% veterans.....	31.2	48.1	50.0	14.6	24.0	21.4	4.3	12.1	10.2
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	18.2	40.1	42.4	6.5	13.5	11.9	2.8	12.1	7.6
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	57.7	33.3	44.0	43.2	44.0	39.2	72.3	70.1	60.6
% service & other.....	7.7	11.1	8.0	16.1	11.4	6.3	19.3	22.2	13.7
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	11.5	38.9	16.0	25.9	34.0	21.7	6.3	5.8	14.9
% unskilled.....	23.1	16.7	32.0	14.8	10.6	32.8	2.1	1.9	10.8
2. Applicants registered during month.....	738	582	1,004	1,079	857	1,073	434	473	473
3. Total workers available during month.....	1,100	1,108	1,772	1,632	1,610	2,737	785	877	944
% referred.....	78.4	67.6	62.5	64.1	62.2	32.8	47.8	48.6	39.3
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	286	362	734	625	553	1,572	330	351	439
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	24,400	22,500	-	30,500	27,900	-	16,700	15,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Sudbury			Toronto			Welland		
	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed.....)	22	23	56	21	14	31	32	24	156
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	1,654	1,272	1,020	25,544	24,525	20,666	719	673	579
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	2,129	1,616	3,308	19,833	24,041	24,670	634	754	953
3. Total jobs available during month.....	3,783	2,888	4,328	45,377	48,566	45,336	1,353	1,427	1,532
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	913	675	935	7,738	7,735	9,585	306	321	527
% casual placements.....	7.2	8.4	4.9	13.6	13.1	7.8	0.3	-	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	1,183	1,654	2,393	19,631	25,544	19,517	448	719	576
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	768	1,045	1,646	5,688	6,641	14,430	249	395	1,495
% female.....	30.7	26.4	32.6	14.8	11.3	8.7	57.4	50.9	59.4
% veterans.....	9.9	29.9	23.3	34.2	42.6	50.5	6.8	20.8	13.0
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	5.7	17.4	18.1	18.0	21.6	30.9	1.6	13.2	7.7
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	69.5	65.9	49.1	49.3	48.9	54.7	48.2	47.8	23.5
% service & other.....	22.9	26.5	16.8	14.6	18.2	11.0	11.2	9.4	8.3
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	4.7	6.9	7.3	16.1	15.2	15.3	17.5	16.4	43.9
% unskilled.....	2.9	0.7	26.8	20.0	17.7	19.0	23.1	26.4	24.3
2. Applicants registered during month.....	1,276	1,181	1,370	13,922	11,114	14,761	574	44.9	965
3. Total workers available during month.....	2,044	2,226	3,016	19,610	17,755	29,191	823	844	2,460
% referred.....	51.6	52.4	43.7	64.1	72.2	53.7	71.0	59.6	36.6
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	713	768	1,494	8,444	5,688	11,553	333	249	1,466
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	-	32,800	26,700	-	402,100	377,300	-	10,300	9,400
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	36.40	32.18	-	-	-

x Figures subject to revision



Item	Windsor		Winnipeg		Regina	
	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June(x) 1947	May 1947
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed.....)	58	60	55	63	30	24
Jobs:						
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month....	486	567	3,308	3,151	986	964
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,487	2,274	6,592	6,193	1,820	2,113
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,973	2,841	9,900	9,344	2,806	3,077
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	1,103	1,070	4,207	3,955	1,218	1,333
% casual placements.....	25.8	19.9	37.4	38.2	36.2	26.1
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	267	486	3,479	3,308	797	986
Workers:						
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month..	3,293	3,922	8,687	10,099	769	1,821
% female.....	50.7	44.0	32.0	27.4	28.2	20.3
% veterans.....	16.6	24.3	23.8	40.4	20.9	47.9
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	11.0	18.7	15.2	27.1	18.3	45.7
Occupational distribution, females:						
% professional, clerical & sales....	50.9	50.7	56.0	59.1	60.8	59.1
% service & other.....	10.2	9.6	9.5	10.0	20.3	20.6
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	21.8	22.5	15.1	10.8	14.3	13.5
% unskilled.....	17.1	17.2	19.4	20.1	4.6	6.8
2. Applicants registered during month....	2,486	2,616	8,180	8,169	2,159	1,717
3. Total workers available during month.	5,779	6,538	16,867	18,268	2,928	3,538
% referred.....	30.2	35.6	39.7	34.1	71.7	62.9
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	3,168	3,293	7,519	8,687	934	769
Employment:						
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	54,800	-	137,700	-	31,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	43.51	-	33.09	-	31.80

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed).....	38	34	43	42	48	66	33	34	49
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month...	644	1,058	998	1,258	1,191	1,417	1,457	1,411	1,782
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,207	1,090	1,384	2,885	3,149	3,039	3,354	3,661	4,363
3. Total jobs available during month....	1,851	2,148	2,382	4,143	4,340	4,456	4,811	5,272	6,145
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	526	638	654	1,950	2,037	2,076	2,386	2,861	2,472
% casual placements.....	21.5	21.9	21.4	15.9	14.2	16.7	17.1	19.1	22.3
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	831	644	908	1,018	1,258	1,343	1,407	1,457	1,768
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants first of month...	1,443	1,890	1,606	2,374	2,779	3,393	2,389	3,578	3,882
% female.....	38.8	31.2	19.4	29.9	24.5	18.7	22.2	16.1	15.6
% veterans.....	29.2	37.0	51.6	30.1	49.0	45.8	27.5	45.8	56.4
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	19.3	31.2	35.8	19.5	35.8	31.4	16.5	34.2	27.3
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales...	59.5	57.7	55.4	66.9	68.4	69.1	59.4	54.7	49.7
% service & other.....	27.0	25.1	20.5	17.6	18.9	15.1	27.0	25.9	23.0
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	7.3	9.2	7.7	7.6	5.7	4.4	4.0	6.6	8.3
% unskilled.....	6.2	8.0	16.4	7.9	6.9	11.4	9.6	12.8	19.0
2. Applicants registered during month...	1,714	1,436	2,063	3,063	2,877	3,353	4,437	4,155	4,465
3. Total workers available during month.	3,157	3,316	3,669	5,437	5,656	6,746	6,826	7,733	8,347
% referred.....	40.2	35.0	31.8	53.9	61.3	43.5	63.0	54.8	44.3
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month....	1,643	1,443	1,857	2,068	2,374	3,086	2,263	2,389	3,400
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	42,800	42,800	-	49,300	47,000	-	69,600	69,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	31.66	27.76	-	34.12	31.68	-	32.95	29.75

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Trail		Vancouver		Victoria	
	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946	June(x) 1947	May 1947	June 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed....)	26	23	50	55	62	124
Jobs:						
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month..	87	188	164	4,857	4,271	4,442
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	314	294	315	9,198	10,812	10,134
3. Total jobs available during month....	401	482	479	14,055	15,083	14,576
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	206	370	271	4,746	5,009	3,797
% casual placements.....	-	-	-	16.4	18.2	21.1
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month....	191	87	130	3,740	4,857	5,429
workers:						
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.	213	257	396	12,520	13,080	20,713
% female.....	53.5	47.9	58.6	25.8	25.8	16.2
% veterans.....	10.3	23.7	16.2	29.0	36.0	38.3
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	7.0	12.8	11.4	20.5	28.0	30.9
Occupational distribution, females:						
% professional, clerical & sales....	73.7	76.4	36.2	50.0	46.5	40.1
% service & other.....	20.2	16.3	13.4	21.3	23.4	20.1
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	2.6	4.1	4.7	22.8	24.0	22.5
% unskilled.....	3.5	3.2	45.7	5.9	6.1	17.3
2. Applicants registered during month..	324	365	441	11,810	12,085	14,394
3. Total workers available during month	537	622	837	24,330	25,165	35,107
% referred.....	50.5	51.8	38.8	34.5	35.6	19.1
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month....	241	213	432	11,106	12,520	20,720
Employment:						
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	9,300	8,600	-	200,700	166,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	36.36	32.42

x Figures subject to revision.











A N A D I A N

# LABOUR MARKET

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR,  
RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
DEPT. OF POLITICAL ECONOMY  
August 1947  
BAROMETRICS FILE " " 1947

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Publications

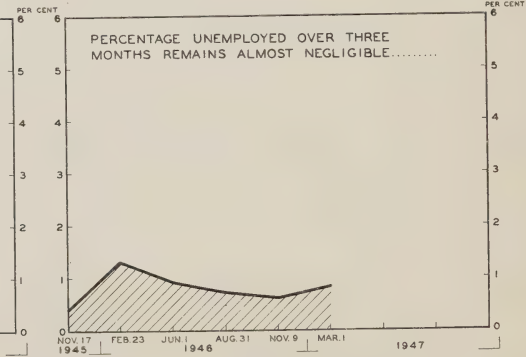
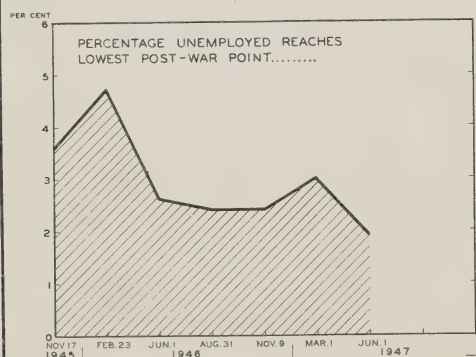
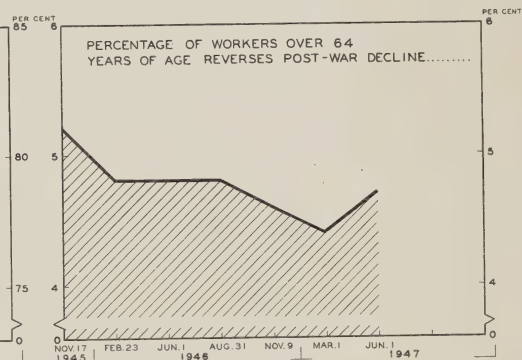
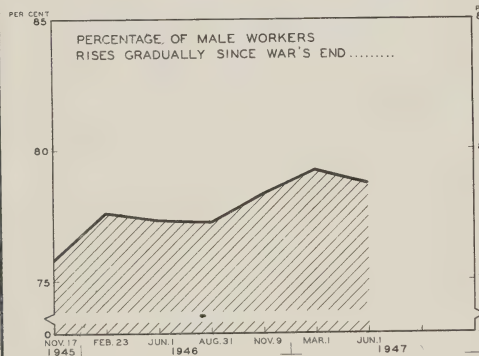
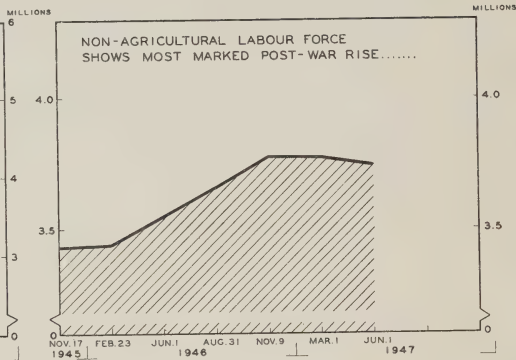
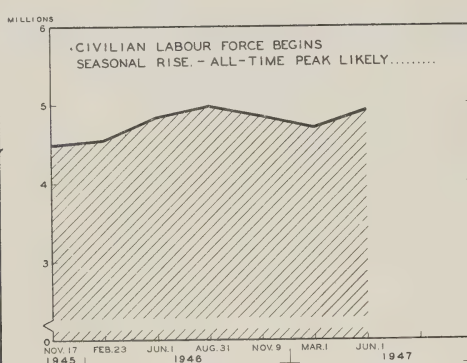
FEATURE ARTICLE.....

Growth of Employment  
in Canada  
1919 - 1939

Volume 3

No. 8

# THE LABOUR FORCE.....



# THE LABOUR MARKET IN BRIEF.....

## Employment

During May, employment continued on its seasonal upswing. The climb was sharper than at the same time in any other year since 1941. At June 1, a total of 1,979,000 wage and salary workers was reported.

The beginning of June saw the employment index advance to 184.5. The logging industry was expanding as a result of river driving operations. Marked seasonal expansion was occurring also in construction and transportation. The advance in mining was largely due to a partial resumption of work in the Maritime coal fields.

## Unplaced Applicants

With the upsurge of seasonal activity in July and early August, the number of unplaced applicants continues to decline. At August 7, some 97,000 unplaced applicants were registered with N.E.S. This is 37,000 below the 1946 low.

## Earnings

At the beginning of June, average weekly wages in manufacturing rose to \$34.23, in spite of a decline in average hours per week. However, real wages<sup>(1)</sup> dropped slightly as the cost of living continued to rise.

## Strikes and Lockouts

Following the end of the coal dispute, strike activity remained relatively quiet during July. Statistics for the month reveal that time lost through strikes was lower by 142,000 man-days from the June level and that 17,000 fewer workers were involved. The figures are also considerably below July 1946, one of last year's peak months.

By the end of June, 12 strikes were still in progress—metal factory workers, textile factory workers and furniture factory workers.

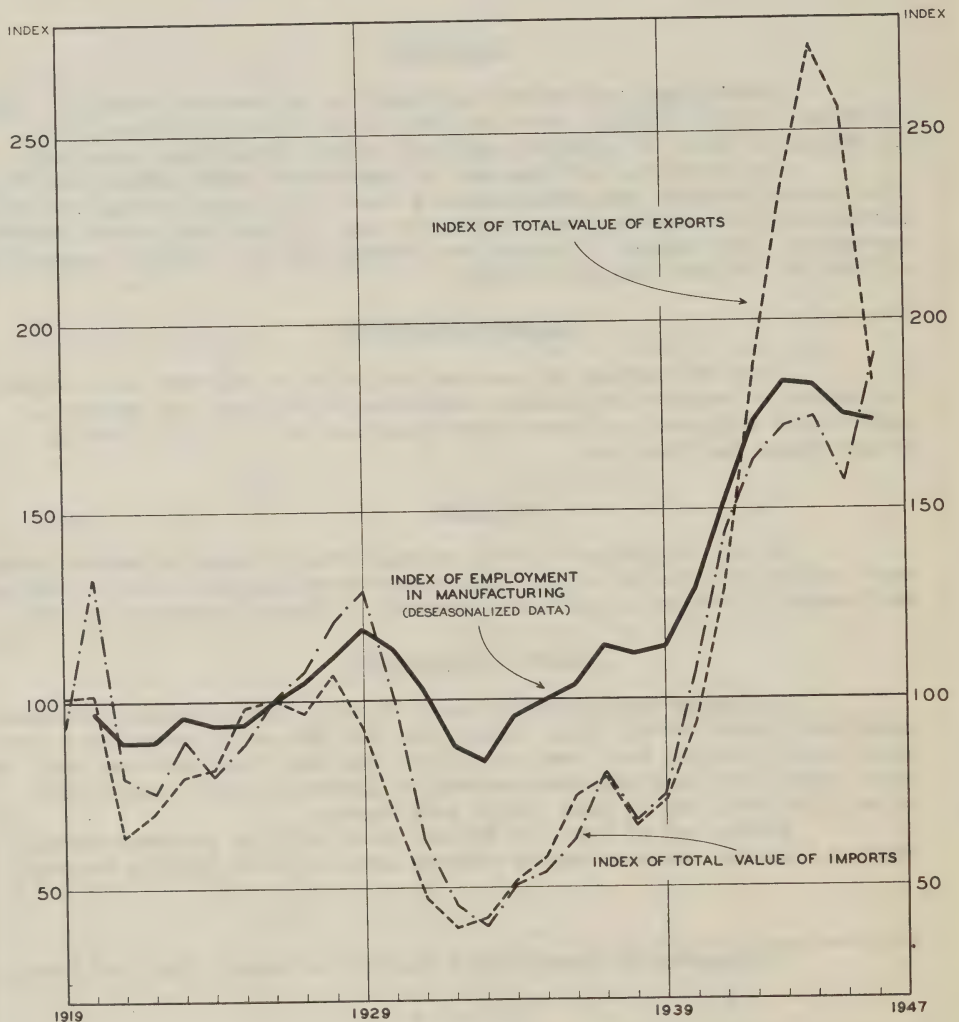
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<sup>(1)</sup>Computed by Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour.



# FOREIGN TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

(BASE: 1926 = 100)



SOURCE: [MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT - EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS BRANCH - D.B.S.  
VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS - TRADE OF CANADA]

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR -- M.3 - G.1

# THE MANPOWER PICTURE

## FOREIGN TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT.....

During the latter part of the war, there was much discussion of the future level of employment in Canada. Whatever the differences of opinion as to the length of the period of postwar prosperity, it was generally agreed that Canada could maintain an employment level approaching the wartime peak while engaged in supplying the needs of devastated Europe, and meeting the backlog of Canadian domestic demand.

Today, 2 years after the war, European rehabilitation has barely begun. There is still a very real need for the foodstuffs, raw materials, and industrial equipment which Canada can supply, and yet a world financial crisis threatens to prevent European needs from continuing as effective demand.

The acute British shortage of American dollars has already led to Britain's suspension of sterling convertibility, and to the cancellation of the foodstuffs order for October and November from the United States. While the Canadian-United Kingdom Trade Agreement of 1946 remains unchanged as yet, there is a great deal of speculation as to the possibilities of renegotiation, with a view to cutting down the volume of Canadian exports to the United Kingdom, and reducing the proportion of payment made in gold and United States dollars. (1) Canadian loans to other European countries are rapidly being used up, and there is little prospect of their renewal.

Nor is the American dollar shortage confined to Europe. Canada is rapidly draining away her reserve of American dollars which she accumulated during the war. At the end of 1945, Canada had some \$1,508 millions in reserve of U.S. dollars and gold, as compared with less than \$400 millions at the outbreak of war. In 1946, the reserve decreased by \$269 million bringing it down to \$1,245 million at the end of the year. During 1947, the drain on this reserve has been at a still more rapid rate.

The immediate cause of our dollar deficit is well known and needs very little elaboration here. Our chief markets are England and the British Empire; our chief source of supplies, the United States. We have long had a favourable balance of trade with the United Kingdom, which we have used to finance our unfavourable balance with the United States(2). Under the credit agreement with Britain, only part of the payments for Canadian imports were in cash or American dollars, with the result that we have been forced to draw on our dollar reserves.

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(1) See Table II in appendix.

(2) See Tables III and IV in appendix.

The British financial crisis implies the further danger that in an effort to conserve her dwindling reserves in gold and American dollars, the British government may have to reduce the amount of her cash payments to us.

It is almost an axiom of Canadian thinking that any threat to our export trade is a threat to our prosperity in general and to our volume of employment in particular. But it may be worthwhile to review briefly the causal connection between exports and employment, especially in the light of the widespread discussion of the changes made in our economy as a result of the war.

What is not so generally recognized about our foreign trade is the relationship between imports from the United States and our employment. Specifically, it would be of value to understand whether or not proposed solutions for the American dollar shortage in this country are likely to interfere with the maintenance of our high level of employment. A discussion of imports and employment will constitute the second part of the article. The third part will be a brief consideration of the long run prospects for Canadian export trade.

### Exports and Employment

The staple industries--It has been estimated that at the end of 1946, some 22 per cent of those workers employed in manufacturing were directly engaged in production for export. But this direct statistical approach tends to underestimate the impact of the export trade on our economy, largely because the relationship between employment and the export trade of Canada is an indirect one.

In the postwar, as indeed throughout the whole of Canadian history, the chief exporting industries are the staple producing industries. In the twentieth century, wheat, lumber, metals, and pulp and paper have replaced furs, fish and squared timber, but the bulk of our exports are still the products of our great natural resources. In 1946, over 60 per cent of our exports were agricultural and forest products, and non-ferrous metals and their products (3). In Canada, exports are not a by-product of an expanding economy, but rather are inherent in the nature of Canadian natural resources. Canada is still one of the world's chief raw material and foodstuff producing countries, and her natural resources are eminently suited to the production and manufacture of primary products to an extent far beyond the capacity of the population to consume them.

The export trade in these primary materials are the foundation of the Canadian economy. The tariff has encouraged an east-west flow of internal trade, with the result that the Canadian secondary industry in the central provinces has been concerned primarily with supplying the market in the staple producing areas in the east, west and north. Any reduction in the volume of staple export trade is quickly reflected in the volume of domestic demand, and therefore in the level of employment in our industrial centres.

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(3) See table V in appendix.



The secondary manufacturing industries—Though the export trade in staples is by far the most important to our economy, there has been a considerable exporting of secondary manufactured goods. Certain industries, especially the consumer durable goods industries, send a sizable portion of their products abroad. In 1937, some 19 per cent of the total value of automobiles and parts produced in Canada was exported.

Though the products of these industries exporting secondary manufactured goods do not bulk large in Canadian export trade, they and their ancillaries provide an important portion of employment for Canadian workers. In June 1947, approximately 50 per cent of those engaged in manufacturing industries were employed in the durable goods industries, the group which is most directly concerned with the export trade in secondary manufactured goods.

Any enforced reduction in the volume of our exports abroad affects Canadian employment levels, therefore, in two ways. By reducing the income of the staple producers, it decreases domestic demand for manufactured goods, and hence reduces the volume of employment in such industries. And more directly, reduction in the volume of our exports affects employment in those manufacturing industries which do export. This reduces employment not only in the firms producing the end products, but also in a vast network of supplier industries.

It is difficult to see how Canada can maintain her high level of employment by insulating herself against world trade fluctuations. The vulnerability of the Canadian economy is deeply rooted in the nature of her economic development and the character of her natural resources. Canada has little alternative but to continue her export trade along the lines which the essential nature of her economy has indicated. In spite of the phenomenal wartime growth in Canadian manufacturing industries, the essential character and direction of the Canadian export trade remains unchanged. Whether there is any prospect for modification in the future is a question which belongs in the discussion of the long term prospects.

### Imports and Employment

It is quite obvious that there is little that can be done to protect Canadian employment levels from a threatened reduction in the basic demand for our products from the rest of the world. The question which concerns us now is whether solutions to the pressing problem of the moment, the Canadian shortage of American dollars, can be found without adversely affecting our employment level. There are five main solutions proposed: first, an American loan to Canada; second, restrictions on Canadian tourist trade in the United States; third, increase of our imports to the United States; fourth, devaluation of the Canadian dollar, which would tend to reduce the volume of imports; and fifth, outright restrictions on American imports, leading to a Canadian "austerity" program.

The first proposal is a palliative in the sense that it would only give us a certain length of time during which many of the countries that formerly bought goods from us could become rehabilitated. There would be the danger that the length of time required would be underestimated. The fourth and fifth proposals may be taken together, for both of them imply a reduction on imports from the United States; the difference between them is largely one of method.

It is quite true that something could be done in the matter of restricting Canadian tourist traffic in the United States. In 1946, Canadian tourists in the United States spent some \$131 million, and it is estimated that this year's expenditure will be some 20 per cent higher. In the same year, we drew on our reserve to the extent of some \$263 millions. Clearly, restrictions in the tourist traffic alone can only reduce the rate at which our American dollar reserves are being used up.

It is ~~not~~ necessary to spend much time over the possibility of increasing our exports to the United States. The largest exports to that country are wood and wood products (including pulp and paper), agricultural products, and non-ferrous metals. In all of these cases, production is currently straining the limits of the manpower and equipment resources. Any increase would mean strict rationing of the home market--a course which would run counter to all recent government policy in removing wartime rationing and restrictions as rapidly as possible. Increases in our exports of secondary manufactured goods run up against the obstacle of the American tariff, to say nothing of higher Canadian costs of production. In the immediate future, it is not impossible that the curtailment of effective European demand for American products will be reflected in a recession in the United States. Naturally, this would reduce American demand for our products.

The remaining proposal is a reduction in our imports from the United States. To understand how this might affect Canadian employment, we must examine the character of our American imports. The breakdown of the American import figures by purpose (4) reveals very clearly that our chief imports from the United States are not consumer goods, but producers' goods. The American influence on our industrial development goes deeper than the mere fact of American investment in branch plants. The United States has been the source of the basic raw materials necessary for the growth of Canadian secondary manufacturing industries. Canada has not yet been able to exploit her natural resources to the extent necessary to maintain a high degree of industrialization. Until recently, the iron deposits on Lake Superior were of a type not workable economically; and they also are far distant from the coal deposits in Alberta and Nova Scotia. It has been natural, then, for Canadian industry to depend heavily on American resources because they are closer to our own industrial centres. Even today, we import over 50 per cent of our coal from the United States.

In addition, it is not only such basic materials as coal and iron which have been supplied by the United States. American efficiency and low cost production have made it cheaper for us to import many of the manufacturers' supplies which can later be processed and assembled into finished products in Canadian factories. The automobile is, of course, the leading example of this. In spite of the increase in Canadian content over recent years, it is still necessary to import such vital parts as body stampings and engine blocks for automobiles.

Obviously, therefore, any enforced reduction in the volume of these essential American imports is going to affect very seriously the volume of production in our own manufacturing industries. Quite as

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(4) See table 7 in appendix.



clearly, it would be impossible to utilize to the full our manpower resources, and our new capital equipment, if the supply of manufactured materials is seriously curtailed. The heavy demand for goods in this country and overseas has been met so successfully, and Canadian employment has reached such a high postwar level, largely because we could draw on American supplies to help us establish the smooth flow of peacetime production.

It is possible, of course, that imports of goods other than producers' supplies could be reduced in volume. But again, we note that the largest bulk of our other imports from the United States are foodstuffs, especially citrus fruits and vegetables. Obviously, a deliberate cut in these articles would directly affect our standard of living. The truth of the matter is that the so-called "luxury" articles, which are most subject to restrictive regulation without serious consequences to our economy and to our standard of living, do not bulk large in the total volume of our American imports.

In summary, it can be seen that many of the steps which might be taken to halt the current drain on our reserve of American dollars would also adversely affect our own level of employment. This is especially true with respect to general import restrictions, a step which many other countries are taking to overcome their shortages of American dollars.

#### Some Long Term Prospects

Expansion of export trade in manufactured goods--Export statistics reveal little or no significant change in the character of our export trade since before the war; the staple products predominate, now as then. But it would be unwise to conclude that in the future manufactured products will continue to play a minor role in our exports. As a result of the war, Canada's industrial capacity has enormously increased, as has her industrial employment. Measured by the numbers employed, manufacturing now is the leading Canadian industry.

At the present time, this high volume of manufacturing employment is being maintained, partly by direct exports to Europe, but primarily by the high domestic demand. The industries which have increased their employment most during the war, for instance, are the consumer durable goods industries, and their suppliers (5), and it is precisely here that the backlog demand is the most important stimulus to high levels of production.

Quite obviously, however, once this backlog of demand is satisfied, even high national income and general prosperity will not prevent production and employment from falling back to something approaching the prewar volume. The industries which have expanded during the war, have, then, a long-run problem of expansion in world markets. Even if the bulk of Canadian exports are still the traditional staples, it would appear that in the future, Canada will have to increase her exports of secondary manufactured goods, if the present levels of employment in manufacturing industries are to be maintained.

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(5) See table VIII in the appendix.



The future direction of Canadian export trade---Granted that Canada must find larger foreign markets for her manufactured goods, the next question is, "Where?". In the past, with the exception of our exports to the United States, exports of Canadian manufactured goods have been almost entirely confined to the British Empire markets. Can we continue to expand in these markets, or must we seek outlets elsewhere, attempting to meet the competition from the United States?

There are serious difficulties in the way of either alternative. Perhaps the most vexing problem at the moment is that of the Empire markets. Canadian sales within the British Empire under Imperial Preference are being threatened from two directions. Many of the Empire countries, notably Australia, one of our leading customers, have themselves greatly expanded their industrial capacity during the war and are eager to extend their own manufacturing of consumer goods, rather than rely so heavily on imports. Secondly, in pressing for a free system of world trade, the United States is seriously questioning the whole policy of Imperial Preference. There is a possibility that she might demand its complete elimination, as a sort of quid pro quo for easing the conditions of the British loan.

For Canada, this presents a very serious problem. It was the prospect of exploiting profitable Empire markets, under preferential tariff rates, which provided much of the incentive for American firms to establish branch plants in Canada. In addition, the Canadian content regulations which most of the Empire countries imposed as a condition of preferential tariff treatment, increased the degree to which the final product was manufactured in Canada. These content regulations were instrumental in advancing some of our important consumer durable goods industries beyond the purely assembly stage. If the Empire markets are no longer protected, much of the incentive for the expansion of American branch plants in Canada might well disappear. The parent American firms might easily find it more advantageous to engage in a minimum of Canadian manufacturing, and export from the United States. If it should seem advisable to follow this policy, then there might be a long term tendency for Canadian manufacturing employment to decline.

In world markets, American competition is the most serious threat to successful Canadian expansion, largely because of the perennial problem of lower-cost American production. It is possible that the world demand for goods is so great that for many years comparative price will not be an obstacle to the wide sale of Canadian products, provided that Canadian industry can establish the necessary trade connections. But for Canada, and for the world, the current and pressing problem is to devise a financial mechanism which will make this undoubted real demand an effective one.

Table I--Net Balance of Current Transactions with the  
United States, 1929 and 1946

(Source: Foreign Exchange Control Board, Annual Report for 1946)  
(millions of Canadian dollars)

Item	1929	1946
Merchandise.....	-356	-430 <sup>(1)</sup>
Non-monetary gold.....	37	96
Tourist traffic.....	103	83
Interest and dividends.....	-172	-204
Freight and shipping.....	- 35	- 66
All other current items.....	- 14	- 82 <sup>(2)</sup>

(1) Including \$55 million receipts from War Supplies Ltd.

(2) Including \$21 million payment by Canadian Government to  
United States Treasury for immovable assets and equipment.

Table II--Sources of Financing Canada's Current Account  
Deficit with United States, 1946

(Source: Foreign Exchange Control Board, Annual Report, 1946)

Item	\$
Reduction in official reserves.....	263 million, U.S.
Gold purchased from U.K. in connection with Anglo-Canadian Financial Agreement.....	150 million, Can.
Balance of current receipts from countries other than U.S.A. and U.K.....	- 87 million, Can.
Balance, representing capital inflows and exchange adjustment.....	103 million, Can.
Total.....	603 million, Can.

Table III—Balance of Trade of Canada  
(on goods account only)  
for selected years 1919 - 1947

(Source: "Trade of Canada" D.B.S.)

Year	Trade of Canada with All Countries	Trade of Canada with the United States	Trade of Canada with the United Kingdom	Trade of Canada with the British Empire
	Excess of Imports (i) or Exports (e) \$	Excess of Imports (i) or Exports (e) \$	Excess of Imports (i) or Exports (e) \$	Excess of Imports (i) or Exports (e) \$
Years ended Dec. 31, (excl. gold)				
1919.....	(e) 348,778,322	(i) 251,979,220	(e) 451,315,088	-
1920.....	(i) 38,758,816	(i) 339,826,932	(e) 111,728,649	-
1926.....	(e) 268,256,906	(i) 198,183,078	(e) 295,737,031	(e) 46,574,600
1929.....	(i) 120,650,245	(i) 378,247,701	(e) 97,051,582	(e) 43,556,655
1932.....	(e) 45,299,340	(i) 98,527,570	(e) 85,586,484	(e) 4,814,764
1933.....	(e) 134,269,478	(i) 44,336,534	(e) 113,435,698	(e) 10,020,714
1937.....	(e) 203,225,455	(i) 118,284,211	(e) 256,067,067	(e) 15,546,364
1939.....	(e) 184,866,179	(i) 107,144,868	(e) 214,879,026	(e) 28,454,058
1944.....	(e) 1,724,200,415	(i) 112,671,469	(e) 1,127,479,033	(e) 281,446,993
1945.....	(e) 1,681,649,146	(e) 25,021,529	(e) 830,937,837	(e) 398,294,885
1946.....	(e) 411,886,445	(i) 496,719,532	(e) 397,365,449	(e) 170,228,226
1947 (1).....	(e) 88,500,000	(i) 488,000,000	(e) 269,000,000	(e) 123,846,000

(1) Six months ended June.



Table IV—Percentage Distribution of Canadian Exports and Imports

(Source: "Trade of Canada" D.B.S.)

Year	Per Cent Imports from the United States	Per Cent Canadian Exports to the United States	Per Cent Imports from the United Kingdom	Per Cent Canadian Exports to United Kingdom	Per Cent Imports from other British Empire	Per Cent Canadian Exports to other British Empire
Years ended Dec. 31 (excl. gold)	%	%	%	%	%	%
1919.....	78.6	36.4	9.3	42.7	-	-
1920.....	68.9	43.8	17.3	26.9	-	-
1926.....	66.3	36.3	16.3	36.4	4.9	7.6
1929.....	68.8	42.8	15.0	25.2	4.8	9.1
1932.....	58.2	32.4	20.7	36.4	7.6	8.0
1933.....	54.2	31.8	24.4	39.8	8.7	8.4
1937.....	60.6	36.1	18.2	40.3	11.0	10.4
1939.....	66.2	41.1	15.2	35.5	10.0	11.1
1944.....	82.3	37.8	6.3	35.9	6.2	11.2
1945.....	75.8	37.2	8.9	29.9	8.3	16.3
1946.....	72.9	38.4	10.5	25.8	7.2	13.3
1947 (1)....	78.1	36.3	6.7	26.5	6.0	15.0

(1) Six months ended June.

Table V—Exports of Canadian Produce - 1937-1947  
Percentage Distribution by Main Commodity Groups

(Source:- "Trade of Canada", D.B.S.)

	1937	1939	1944	1945	1946	(1) 1947
<u>Values as Declared</u>						
Agricultural and vegetable products.....	24.5	23.8	21.5	25.5	25.0	25.9
Animals and animal products.....	14.5	14.3	10.8	12.4	15.5	12.1
Fibres, textiles and textile products.....	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.8	2.3	1.8
Wood, wood products and paper.....	26.4	26.2	12.8	15.2	27.1	30.3
Iron and its products.....	6.6	6.8	22.5	17.2	9.8	10.4
Non-ferrous metal and their products.....	19.5	19.8	9.9	11.0	10.7	10.8
Non-metallic minerals and their products.....	3.1	3.2	1.7	1.9	2.5	2.6
Chemicals and allied products.....	2.2	2.6	2.9	3.5	2.9	3.2
Miscellaneous commodities.....	1.7	1.8	16.1	11.7	4.1	2.9

(1) First six months

Table VI—Imports of Produce to Canada - 1937-1947  
Percentage Distribution by Main Commodity Groups

(Source:- "Trade of Canada", D.B.S.)

	1937	1939	1944	1945	1946	(1) 1947
<u>Values as declared</u>						
Agricultural and vegetable products.						
(except chemicals, fibres & wood).....	18.3	17.0	12.1	14.9	16.1	13.8
Animals and animal products						
(except chemicals, fibres & wood).....	3.9	4.4	2.1	2.9	3.3	3.8
Fibres, textiles and textile products.....	14.3	13.4	10.8	12.4	13.7	17.5
Wood, wood products and paper.....	4.2	4.5	2.5	3.1	3.6	3.6
Iron and its products.....	26.1	24.4	24.4	24.2	25.5	28.8
Non-ferrous metals and their products.....	5.8	5.6	6.1	6.5	6.2	6.3
Non-metallic minerals and their products.						
(except chemicals).....	16.9	17.7	15.4	16.7	17.3	15.3
Chemicals and allied products.....	4.6	5.8	4.6	5.0	4.8	4.6
Miscellaneous commodities.....	5.9	7.2	22.1	14.4	9.4	6.3

(1) First six months.



Table VII -- Imports for Consumption, (from United States)

(Source: "Trade of Canada", D.B.S.)

Item	Fiscal Year 1937	%	Fiscal Year 1939	%	Calendar Year 1944	%	Calendar Year 1945	%
Producers' Materials.....	155,730,425	43.0	149,229,105	39.3	399,505,741	33.7	404,707,796	36.9
Producers' Equipment.....	57,160,605	15.8	67,614,016	17.8	212,242,075	17.9	213,628,240	19.5
Fuel, Electricity & Lubricants.....	35,239,193	9.7	39,563,321	10.4	133,181,480	11.3	119,086,665	10.9
Transport.....	45,465,385	12.5	44,188,357	11.7	202,883,736	17.1	107,536,183	9.8
Auxiliary Materials for Commerce & Industry.....	6,162,204	1.7	6,381,448	1.7	11,055,555	0.9	12,944,837	1.2
Consumers' Goods.....	60,313,145	16.6	70,551,932	18.6	143,759,533	12.2	164,882,330	15.0
Live Animals for food.....	2,468	0.0	3,437	0.0	708,038	0.1	13,422	0.0
Unclassified.....	2,339,233	0.7	1,747,311	0.5	80,806,812	6.8	73,801,334	6.7
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>362,412,653</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>379,278,927</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,184,143,070</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,096,600,807</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table VIII --Employment in Selected Manufacturing Industries

(Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S.)

Item	1937	1943	1946	1947(a)
Automobiles (and parts).....	21,526	45,111	35,143	40,884
Machinery (except agricultural).....	12,989	26,547	25,501	29,801
Electrical apparatus.....	19,681	43,501	41,720	49,594

(a) First six months





# GROWTH OF EMPLOYMENT IN CANADA 1919 - 1939

In discussing the employment situation of the present day, and the problems we are likely to face in the future, an understanding of the major historical developments in the growth of Canada as an industrial nation forms an essential background. With respect to such a discussion, it is perhaps simplest to follow the usual division of the period from 1919 to 1939 into pre-depression and post-depression years. The year 1929 inevitably stands out as the dividing point between the prosperity and promise of the 1920's and the depression and uncertainties of the 1930's. Each period saw developments basic to the development of Canada as an industrial nation.

## THE PERIOD 1919-1929 .....

Industrial growth--From the point of view of an interpretation of current employment conditions in Canada, the most outstanding characteristic of the 1920's was not the short term development of the great boom leading to the depression of the 1930's, but rather the long term trend towards greater manufacturing industrialization. The first World War had given great impetus to the development of the manufacturing industries of Canada.

Although at the war's end agriculture still employed more workers than industry, manufacturing at that time accounted for 33 per cent of the net value of Canadian production. With the exception of the recession years of 1921 and 1924, the growth in manufacturing production was steadily upward. In 1919, the index of manufacturing production stood at 63.0 (base, 1935-39=100). By 1924, in spite of the recession, it stood at 75.1, and by 1929, it had risen to 104.3. Here then was a decided growth, which is again reflected in the trend of employment in manufacturing.

At January 1, 1921, the index of employment in manufacturing stood at 74.3 (base, 1926=100). By January 1, 1929, it had reached 107.3. The index of employment for all industries (excluding agriculture) likewise shows a decided growth, reflecting the same trend as the manufacturing industries, which indeed seemed to set the pace - (January 1, 1921=91.7, January 1, 1923=93.3, January 1, 1929=109.1).

The importance of the export trade--But this growing industrialization, as indicated by the development of manufacturing industries, did little to alter Canada's dependence on export trade for her prosperity. In the 1920's, as throughout her past history, the prosperity of Canada was based on her world-wide exports, though now it was wheat and the mineral resources of Northern Ontario and Quebec which played the leading role, rather than furs, fish and lumber.

Essentially, the enormous manufacturing activity in the industrialized east was dependent on domestic markets, that is, on the ability to sell to the factory workers of the cities, and to the producers of staples on the farms and in the mines. With a few notable exceptions, such as automobiles, exports of manufactured goods did not have an important place in Canadian export trade.

For the producer of manufactured goods, however, no less than for the producer of staples, a high level of sales depended on world prosperity and the continued sale of Canadian wheat and mineral products in the world market. And it follows that Canada's level of employment in all her leading industries was likewise dependent on world markets, over which Canadians had little control.

Relation of Canada's economy to that of U.S. and Europe--There is another important aspect of Canada's industrial development which seems to be of particular importance today, in the light of the Canadian credits to Britain, and the threatened exhaustion of the Canadian supply of American dollars.

In spite of our increasing industrialization, we had to import a great deal from the United States. Far more important than consumers' goods, foodstuffs, etc. were the imports of producers' goods - iron, special types of steel, coal, machine tools, and machinery, to mention only a few.

Our domestic market was so small, in comparison with that of the United States, that it was not possible to manufacture economically such items as machine tools, and machinery. Coal could be imported to central Canada from the United States more cheaply than it could be mined and hauled from our own coal mines in Alberta and Nova Scotia.

Our industrialization, then, during the 1920's did not make us independent of the United States. In spite of our progress in the decade of the 1920's, we had not developed anything like a self-sufficient industrial economy. Our dependence on the United States for many of the basic materials and equipment of manufacturing processes meant that we were forced to import these from the U.S. if our industries were to function at all.

Our exports to the United States--chiefly of newsprint, pulp and paper, minerals (notably nickel) and dairy products--were never sufficient to pay for our imports from that country. The chief Canadian markets were in Europe, and more especially, in the United Kingdom. Our exports to these countries were more than sufficient to pay for our imports from them. This surplus we used to redress our unfavourable balance of trade with the United States.

Thus Canadian trade has always been triangular in nature; the industrialization of the 1920's did little to change this. In fact, it might be said that insofar as our manufacturing industries could not be independent, directed as they were to the home market, their development increased our dependence on imports from the United States.



## THE DECADE OF THE 1930's.....

### The Great Depression

Decline in agriculture and industry--It is almost a truism to state that Canada's dependence on world exports made her especially vulnerable to the world business cycle. Vulnerability to fluctuations in world markets had been characteristic of Canada's economic development from the earliest times, and the period of the 1930's was certainly no exception.

There is perhaps little need to dwell on the details of the depression in Canada: a few important figures are sufficient to indicate its severity if our own recollection needs to be bolstered by statistics. The severity of the depression for our staple producers can best be indicated by some brief reference to the decline in cash income from the sale of farm products. In 1929, it had been \$926.7 million; by 1933, it had fallen to just over one third of that amount--to \$396.6 million. In the same period, the wholesale price index for farm products had fallen from 100.8 to 51.0 (base, 1926=100).

Manufacturing production fared no better. From its peak in 1929 (104.3), it fell to a low point in 1933 (65.6). The industrial production index reached a low level in the same year (63.2 as compared with 108.8 in 1929). The construction industry was particularly hard hit; the index of construction activity fell from a level of 322.5 in 1929 to a low of 55.7 in 1933.

Decline in employment--It is hardly necessary to point out that the depression brought with it a decline in employment never before exceeded. The index of employment in manufacturing fell from 107.3 in 1929 to 74.4 in 1934, and, as might be expected, a very similar trend was evidenced in employment in the eight leading non-agricultural industries of Canada.

Unemployment--When we think of the Great Depression, it is not in terms of indexes of manufacturing activity, but rather in terms of unemployment beyond anything that our economy had ever experienced. It is true that we had never been entirely free from the problem, and at times it certainly became a serious one. But by May, 1930, it is estimated that there were 386 thousand unemployed persons in Canada. By January, 1933, this figure had reached 718,000.

The problem was a national one, far beyond the power of charity, or even of the civic governments of the country to handle. It was in recognition of this that the Federal government initiated a system of public relief by passing the Relief Act of 1932. This was an agreement entered into between the provinces and the federal government to provide funds for relief. The agreement was renewed in 1934 and 1935, and up to March, 1936. In addition, the federal government undertook public works projects, and instituted relief camps for the single unemployed.

Recovery--By 1933, the trough of the cycle had been reached, and in 1934, some improvement was visible. From then on, the trend in business and manufacturing activity was steadily upward, until a post-depression peak was reached in 1937. In that year, the index of industrial production had reached 108.4, just slightly under that of 1929, and the index of manufacturing production had reached 109.4, 5.1 points above that of the peak year of the previous decade.



In 1939, however, there was a minor recession, but recovery was in evidence in 1939 before the outbreak of war.

The permanent residue of unemployed--It follows logically that the indexes of employment should show the same trend as those of manufacturing activity, and in fact they do. But Canada, in common with all other industrialized countries of the world, discovered, after the depression, that even in a prosperous year, when business conditions were "normal" and every one was welcoming the return of prosperity, there were still a large number of people out of work. This was so true that a system of public relief was still necessary.

In January of 1937, unemployment stood at 452,000, although by September of the same year the numbers had declined to 225,000. The latter figure was still considerably above the 1929 level (178,000) although manufacturing activity was actually greater in the latter year. This was more than frictional unemployment; it meant that the economy was faced with a residue of unemployed persons whom it could not absorb.

Growth in industrialization--At the same time, in spite of the depression, Canada had continued towards greater industrialization. By 1939, manufacturing production constituted 39 per cent of a total net value of production of \$3.2 billion, as against 22 per cent for agriculture. This was in contrast to the situation in 1919 when agriculture was Canada's most important industry, constituting 44 per cent of the total net value of commodity production of \$3.3 billion, as against 33 per cent for manufacturing.

Canada entered the second World War with a greatly increased industrial plant compared to the last war, and a residue of unemployed. The industrial plant which had been developed was the backbone of her war production, and the unemployed helped to provide the manpower for the war industry and the armed forces.

## EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITIES

"Tightness" characterizes current labour market - registered labour demand now tops supply by 2,000--The spring and early summer of 1947 have seen a constant tightening of the labour market. Unplaced applicants edged steadily downward from the February peak of 196,000 to the all-time low of 93,000 at August 14. Unfilled vacancies totalled 95,000 at that date. Stringent labour shortages are likely to develop by early fall, as peak seasonal requirements of agriculture, food processing industries and construction are to be met within the next two months.

Available labour supply was severely taxed during June to meet manpower needs. Forty-five per cent of all available applicants were referred to a specific job order. In contrast, this percentage fell as low as 25 during the winter months.

Dwindling labour supply presents problem for N.E.S. selection officers--Selection officers, by encouraging employers to accept the physically handicapped and older worker, have kept the level of placements relatively high during June, despite the fact that registered job seekers declined in this period.

Agricultural labour demand showed a sharp gain in June, with substantially improved weather conditions. However, the lateness of the season tended to graduate employers' requests for workers over a longer period.

Reporting of vacancies to N.E.S. jumped from about 900 to 1,020 per week during June. This was correspondingly reflected in a rise in placements from 480 to 660 per week.

The transfer of Prairie workers to British Columbia during the berry picking season was nearing its completion in June. By the end of the month some 850 persons had been transferred.

At the latest available date (July 20) about 950 Prairie farm workers had been transferred under an excursion to Ontario farms to work. The gap left was filled by Quebec farmers, about 100 of whom had already been moved to farms in Ontario.

Reporting of vacancies to N.E.S.--By June, the steady upswing of seasonal forces had levelled off. Thus, for the first time since January, vacancies notified showed a net decline. Fewer job openings were reported in all main industry groups with the exception of mining.

By and large, the contra-seasonal downtrend was indicative of the existent state of full employment. That is, by the end of May, in general all the physically fit had been absorbed into gainful employment. Employers, then, in view of the prevailing tight labour market, indefinitely postponed placing orders for help.

Average weekly vacancies reported in June numbered 29,796 in contrast to 34,017 and 37,694 one month and one year ago respectively. The June downtrend was sharpest in the central provinces and in British Columbia, while seasonal factors sustained labour demand in the Maritime and Prairie provinces.

Male job openings fell much more sharply than those for women. The contraction in reported vacancies over the year was not significantly concentrated in any one province.

Job seekers reporting to N.E.S.---By the latter part of May, available labour supply had fallen below the low point of 1946, and day-by-day registration of job applicants was turning sharply downward. Employment offices, therefore, had to meet the needs of industry which would be steadily gaining momentum for at least the next three months.

"First jobbers". student workers and labour transfers help meet labour demand---The absorption of first jobbers into the employment stream in June relieved the tight labour market situation somewhat. These workers secured employment in factories, business offices, banks, and telephone companies. Further, employers made use of student labour on a temporary basis where permanent help was not otherwise obtainable. Workers were also obtained in substantial numbers from the reserve of unemployed labour in Nova Scotia.

Excepting the potential supply of student labour and the reserve of workers in chronic unemployment areas, fully employable labour had been almost completely absorbed by the early part of June. Consequently, referral activity was becoming more selective. Placement officers had to encourage employers to accept the untrained, the physically handicapped, and the older worker.

During June, weekly registration of job applicants averaged 29,921 against 28,804 last month and 38,205 at the same time last year. The end of June saw 114,528 on file. Of these, 25 per cent were registered for skilled or semi-skilled work while 35 per cent were seeking unskilled jobs.

Matching the applicant with the job---Matching workers to jobs became more selective during June. Jobs reported were fewer and less diversified and at the same time available supply of labour was rapidly being scaled down to the minimum.

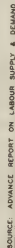
During June referrals dropped four per cent to average 25,081 per week over this period. The decline was common to all main industry groups with the exception of trade, finance and insurance.

Placement activity---The level of placements remained relatively constant during June despite the fact that vacancies edged off and labour supply dwindled steadily. Clearance of orders, absorption of the older worker, placement of first jobbers and student labour and the selective referral of the physically handicapped enabled employment officers to make the best use of the available supply of labour.

The industrial distribution of placements during June was relatively unchanged from the May period. Trade and construction edged slightly upward thus counteracting slowdowns in logging, service,



## AS REPORTED BY THE



transportation and manufacturing placements. The percentage distribution by provincial breakdown, which showed only minor changes over the month, was as follows during June: Maritimes (6 per cent); Quebec (21 per cent); Ontario (40 per cent); Prairie (19 per cent); British Columbia (14 per cent);

Female placements swung upwards in contrast to a slight downtrend for males. Placements averaged 15,304 per week in June, as compared with 15,762 and 17,368 one month and one year before respectively.

Clearance orders fill many vacancies in June---A large proportion of vacancies was filled through clearance of orders during June. Transfers rose from two to three per cent of total placements. The current increase reflected both the transfer of workers from Cape Breton and New Glasgow and the seasonal movement of workers to construction projects and mines.

The special placement field---During the May-June period, placement of the physically handicapped hit the year's high mark and the unplaced fell below all previous records.

As stated above, under present conditions of full employment many employers have been forced to accept the physically unfit whom they would not have accepted had more employable labour been available.

At the same time, however, there has been a growing awareness of the need for rehabilitation of the impaired worker and the number of permanent placings are gradually gaining. From May 15 to June 14 special placement of the handicapped totalled 1,489, leaving 4,374 on file at the mid-June date.

E. and P. offices---Placement activity during the first half of the year was well above that reported in the comparable period in 1946. This was in sharp contrast to a steady decline experienced in the general field. More extensive channelling of labour market operations through the specialized E. and P. offices accounted largely for the uptrend. More employers were reporting job vacancies and more applicants were seeking work in June than previously.

Level of placements maintained despite decline in registered job seekers---Despite the fact that the registration of workers dropped substantially during June, placements remained at a constant level. Average weekly registrations totalled 284 in June, with placements continuing at 69 per week. The end of June saw 1,727 jobs listed and 2,174 unplaced applicants still on file.

The "veteran" situation---Applications for work took a sharp downturn in June, especially those from among World War II veterans. This decline is a gradual downturn from the heavy registration of veteran students in May.

On the other hand, June saw more World War I veterans filing orders for jobs, many of whom were probably endeavouring to benefit from the extensive campaigns launched on behalf of the older veteran.

Applications averaged 7,087 per week in June, against the 7,430 May weekly average.

Problems encountered in the placing of veterans were similar to those experienced in the general field. During June, placements of ex-servicemen averaged 3,993 per week. Placement of World War 1 veterans, although slightly below the all-time high reached in May, continued at over 500 per week in June.

All-time high reached in placement of physically handicapped veterans—Among the physically handicapped, veteran placements reached the peak to date. From May 15 to June 14, 840 were placed in comparison with 692 and 576 one month and one year ago respectively.

Unplaced veterans—The number of jobless veterans had been scaled down to below 30,000 by June 26—less than three per cent of total discharges. Those still on file consisted, by and large, of those registered in chronic unemployment areas, the seriously handicapped, unemployables, and those temporarily changing jobs.

At the June date there were 29,608 unplaced exservicemen. Of these, 72 per cent had been seeking work for more than two weeks in comparison with 73 per cent and 77 per cent during May and April respectively.

The transfer of veterans out of the Cape Breton area was reflected in a drop in the unplaced registered for more than two weeks in the Halifax area. May 29 saw 6,080 unplaced; four weeks later this number had shrunk to 4,776.

Seasonal influences reduced the 15 day or more unplaced in Vancouver from 3,205 to 2,639, and in Winnipeg from 2,749 to 1,706.



# SIGNIFICANT LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

PRE-WAR, WAR, AND POST-WAR COMPARISON

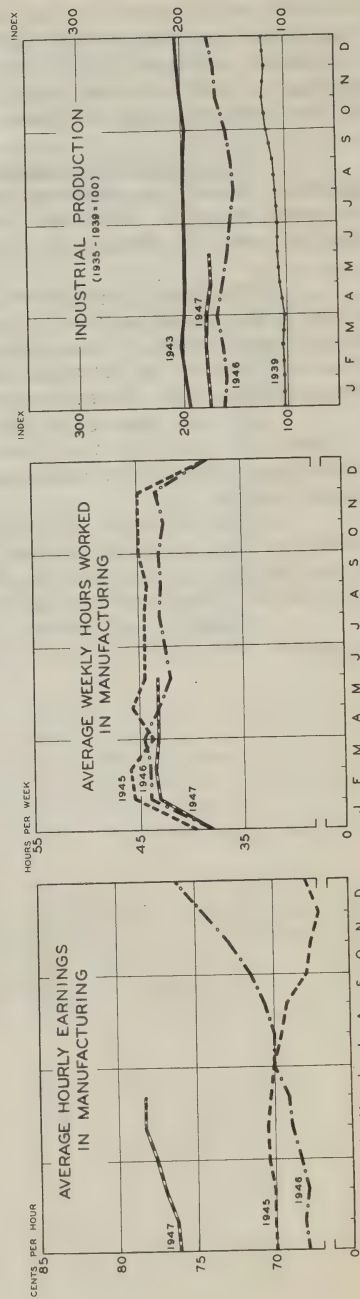
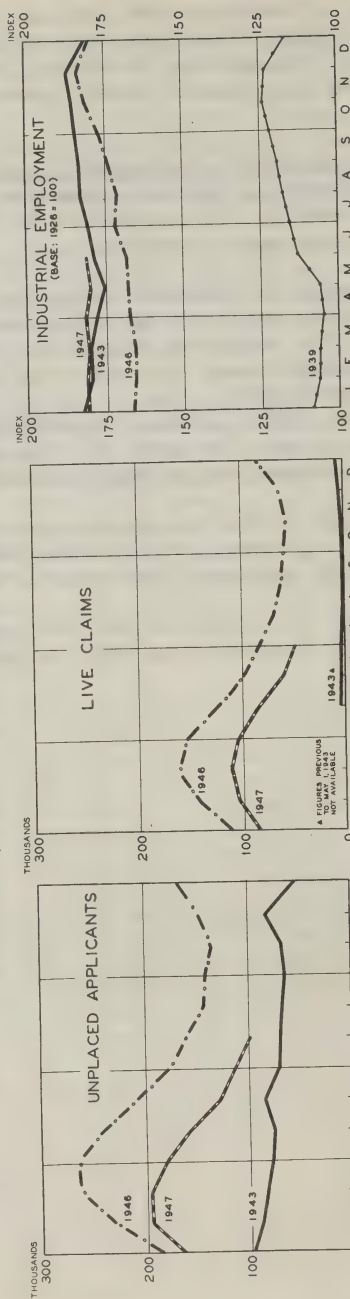


Table I—Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note:—All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Indicators	June 1939	June 1941	June 1942	June 1943	June 1944	June 1945	June 1946	May 1947	June 1947
Employment (a)—									
Index (Av. 1926=100).....	113.1	155.4	169.3	178.3	177.8	173.1	168.6	178.4	183.0
(June 1, 1941=100)...	-	100.0	112.0	117.9	117.6	114.7	111.8	118.2	121.3
Number(thousands).....	1,214	1,668	1,818	1,914	1,909	1,858	1,810	1,929	1,979
Female(thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	424	440	440
Unplaced Applicants (b)—									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	84	63	70	210	157	126
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	46	38	46	170	123	94
Female(thousands).....	-	-	-	38	25	24	40	34	32
Live Claims—									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	7	17	99	82	59
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	5	10	74	60	40
Female(thousands).....	-	-	-	-	2	7	25	22	19
Earnings (a)—									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941=100)...	-	100.0	124.7	142.1	145.1	142.7	137.0	164.0	168.7
Per capita weekly earnings.	-	25.49	28.27	30.93	31.83	32.15	31.80	35.95	36.06
Cost of Living (c) —									
(Av. 1935-39=100).....	-	110.5	116.7	118.5	119.0	119.6	123.6	133.1	134.9
Man-hours and hourly earnings (a)—									
Average hours per week.....	-	-	-	-	-	44.3	42.0	42.9	43.2
Average hourly earnings....	-	-	-	-	-	70.3	69.1	79.8	78.3
Strikes and lockouts (b)									
Number.....	13	32	55	59	23	13	36	43	31
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	2	7	16	23	6	3	71	34	17
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	9	39	42	143	10	5	934	365	166
Industrial Production (d)									
(Av. 1935-39=100).....	108.3	153.8	183.8	198.1	200.7	182.2	156.4	175.0	175.2

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.





# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES

## MANUFACTURING.....

Estimated employment.....1,330,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 27,000

In comparison with 1946, an outstanding feature of manufacturing employment this year has been the lack of strikes. At the time of writing, no major work stoppages had occurred, with the only threat to industrial peace coming from the meat packing industry where 3,000 workers went on strike on August 27. A small but significant textile strike has been dragging on since April, centred at Ayer's Ltd., in Lachute, Quebec.

In the first eight months of 1947, employment in manufacturing has averaged more than 5 per cent above last year. Increases have been especially notable in such durable goods industries as electrical apparatus, automobiles and agricultural implements. Shipbuilding and non-metallic minerals have been the only major industries experiencing a decline.

The Employment Forecast Survey of the Department of Labour, which covers some 800 establishments employing over half a million workers, estimates that employment in manufacturing will increase about 4 per cent from June 1 to October 1 of this year. This is slightly more than the normal seasonal rise. About half the increase is expected to occur in the food products industry.

A seasonal decline of 3 per cent is predicted for the period from October 1 to January 1, 1948. If the forecast figure is reached, the year 1948 will begin with manufacturing employment at a level of 42,000 above January 1947 and 100,000 over January 1, 1946.

At the first of August, the Canada total of unfilled vacancies in manufacturing industries, as reported to the National Employment Service, remained fairly constant at 27,000. The most serious labour shortage continued to be in the textile and apparel industry where 9,000 more workers, mainly women, could be employed. In the food products industry orders were on hand for 3,600 more.

## AGRICULTURE.....

Estimated employment.....1,225,000

Heavy seasonal labour demand has upped employment in this industry by an estimated 300,000 from the winter. The tight labour market which now exists precludes attainment of the top limit of employment potential, however, as the agricultural labour reserve is abnormally small.

Of the over 1,300,000 persons engaged in agricultural work in Canada, more than 700,000 are own-account farmers; about 200,000 are paid employees and 400,000 are unpaid family workers.

Regional and seasonal variations in agriculture are apparent in the table below. The greatest regional concentration of employment is to be found in the Prairies, which accounts for over 40 per cent of the total.

Table I—Agricultural Labour Force by Region for Selected Dates 1945-47.  
(thousands of persons 14 years of age and over)  
(Source: D.B.S. Labour Force Survey)

Date	Mar.	Que.	Ont.	Pr.	B.C.	Can.
Nov. 17, 1945.....	83	266	269	420	27	1,065
Feb. 23, 1946.....	88	270	278	423	30	1,089
June 1 " .....	112	309	319	507	30	1,274
Aug. 31 " .....	97	299	353	536	34	1,319
Nov. 9 " .....	91	229	294	437	25	1,076
Mar. 1, 1947.....	72	222	226	383	28	931
May 31 " .....	89	260	313	463	38	1,163

A major determinant of the extent of labour demand in agriculture is the price factor. Prices of farm products are still high, latest data show the D.B.S. index of wholesale prices of farm products to be 117.8 for July 1947 (on the base 1935-39 equals 100). Deterioration in crop prospects due to hot, dry weather will materially reduce the volume of crop production, although the increased emphasis on dairy and hog marketings may cushion this drop. Last year, net income to farmers established a record high of \$1,226.9 millions (estimated national income for 1946 - \$9,212 millions).

Exports of agricultural and vegetable products were \$343.6 millions in value in the first six months of 1947, 27 per cent above the same period in 1946.

#### THE SERVICES INDUSTRY.....

Estimated employment.....845,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 18,400

No complete enumeration of the numbers employed in this industry group has been taken since the Decennial Census of 1941. At that date, 792,000 persons were listed as employed in services occupations, of whom 58 per cent were women.

Indications are that employment in the services industry declined during the war due to the combined factors of the general labour shortage and the availability of more attractive work in other industries. Since the end of the war, however, the industry's labour force has expanded rapidly. The Labour Force Survey of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, based on a sampling technique, estimated total employment at 732,000 in February 1946, rising to 823,000 by February, 1947.

Due to remarkable wartime expansion, the largest single sub-group within the industry (services is considered to have four main divisions - public, professional, personal and recreational) in public service. Decennial

# INDUSTRIAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR FORCE AS AT JUNE 1, 1947

TOTAL LABOUR FORCE - 4,912,000  
UNEMPLOYED - 91,000

MANUFACTURING



1,325,000  
OR  
27.5 %

AGRICULTURE



1,163,000  
OR  
24.1 %

SERVICES



823,000  
OR  
17.1 %

TRADE, FINANCE  
AND INSURANCE



721,000  
OR  
15.0 %

TRANSPORTATION  
AND COMMUNICATION



369,000  
OR  
7.7 %

CONSTRUCTION



254,000  
OR  
5.3 %

FORESTRY, FISHING  
AND TRAPPING



91,000  
OR  
1.9 %

MINING



75,000  
OR  
1.6 %



Census data show that, in 1941, 140,000 were employed in Federal, Provincial and Municipal service. Current estimates place the total at 390,000, or an increase of 270 per cent.

A decrease of nearly 20 per cent in unfilled vacancies in the services industry was noted during July. At the first of August, labour demand registered with the National Employment Service totalled 18,400. The ratio of vacancies to total employment was 1:48, the same proportion as in manufacturing.

Of the total, 8,000 vacancies were in personal service, which includes laundries, 3,000 were in domestic service and 1,600 in public service.

#### TRADE, FINANCE AND INSURANCE.....

Estimated employment.....720,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 10,000

The summer employment peak in the trading industries is usually reached about July 1, followed by a slight drop until early fall. Present wage-earner employment in retail trade (including restaurants) is at the 375,000 mark. Wholesale trade wage-earners total nearly 150,000 and finance and insurance over 100,000. Own-accounts in the labour force bring the total up to 720,000.

Labour supply is not a serious limiting factor on retail trade employment any longer. At the first of August, retail trade establishments across Canada had reported to the National Employment Service a need for some 6,000 additional workers. Reports received by the Department of Labour from the larger department stores indicate a scarcity of satisfactory employees of some types, however. One executive states:

"Porters, restaurant help, stenographers and elevator operators are still scarce. We are getting good quality girls for counter sales but we are still unable to do as much selection as we would like...."

The pattern which is developing in retail store sales is that expected for this year, with the emphasis on durable rather than on non-durable goods and continuing shortages in some lines of hard goods. The Bureau of Statistics unadjusted index of retail sales (1935-39 average equals 100) stood at 232.7 at June 1, as compared with 216.6 at the same date in 1946. Most, if not all, of this increase can be attributed to advances in price. The Bureau's index of retail prices, (commodities only) which covers only part of the retail field was at 142.7 at June 1, 1947 (average 1935-39 equals 100). One year ago the comparable figure was 132.1.

In connection with sales, one large eastern Canada department store reports:

"Sales in dollar value are 12 per cent ahead of last year, but in terms of actual quantities of goods sold, they are just about equal to those of last year. People are definitely more selective and, on the whole, are buying more carefully. I would say, there is definite resistance to current prices in many lines, exceptions being refrigerators and washers where we could sell far more if we could get them".

## TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS.....

Estimated employment.....377,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 2,689

Employment in the transportation industry now is at an all-time high after experiencing a steady growth since 1939. The Bureau of Statistics index of transportation employment (on the base 1926 equals 100) stood at 140.0 at June 1, 1947. At the same date in 1939 the comparable figure was 86.5.

A similar, but more rapid, rate of growth has taken place in communications employment since the beginning of the war. Like transportation, employment in this industry in the pre-war period was depressed below the 1926 level. The index for June 1939 was 83.8; for June 1947 was 165.7 (on the base 1926=100).

On the average, from 1929 to 1939, the seasonal peak in transportation employment was reached at October 1. In the period from 1940-45, the yearly high came a little earlier, about the first of August.

Data on 1946 wage rates for selected railway occupations, prepared by the Department of Labour, were published in the June 1947 issue of the Labour Gazette. These show the industry's average to be among the highest. Some examples of daily wage rates are-passenger conductors -\$9.13; passenger brakemen-\$6.82; train baggagemen-\$6.99; switch tenders-\$6.84; yardmen (helpers)-\$8.30.

Rates for locomotive engineers and locomotive firemen are given in cents per mile. Passengers engineers rates show a range of from 7.66-8.66 cents; for through-freight engineers the range is from 8.70-10.62 cents. Similar data for passenger locomotive firemen are 6.06-7.26 cents per mile; for through-freight firemen-6.86 to 8.37 cents.

Of the railway employees paid on an hourly basis, sectionmen (classified, and yards) were paid at a wage rate ranging from 70-74 cents in 1946. Signalmen received from 66-68 cents; car shop mechanics-\$1.05; shop electricians-\$1.05; coach cleaners-70 cents; and shop labourers from 66-68 cents, per hour.

Most of the N.E.S. activity in this section of the labour market is concentrated in the placement of unskilled labour and of truck and taxi drivers. At August 1, 1947 there were 574 unfilled vacancies for truck, taxi and tractor drivers with 3,249 unplaced applicants. Openings in unskilled occupations at the same date totalled 1,640 with 530 applicants.

## CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.....

Estimated employment.....277,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 11,300

Construction presents the unique picture of an industry with virtually unlimited demand for its product and a current level of production which does not even begin to meet this backlog. With housing remaining the nation's No. 1 shortage, more people than ever before are working in the construction industry.



This year's on-site employment, not over 275,000, is more than 5 per cent above 1946. Before the present level of employment was reached, 1942 was the record year for construction employment. The construction industry includes highway and railway construction and maintenance, as well as building construction.

The construction labour market is still featured by the shortage of qualified skilled tradesmen. Of the 11,300 total of unfilled vacancies in this industry, nearly 6,000 are in building and construction and over 2,000 for special trade contractors. At August 1, there were 3,100 openings for carpenters, 650 for bricklayers and tile setters, and over 500 for painters. Over 60 per cent of the vacancies were in Quebec and Ontario.

The semi-stagnant market for housing due to high costs is reflected in the decline in residential contracts awarded. For the first seven months of 1947, residential contracts were 25 per cent below the 1946 total in value at \$98 millions. Due to increased activity in business and engineering construction, the total value of contracts awarded of all types during 1947 is just slightly below last year. The seven month total is approximately \$402 millions, less than 3 per cent below the figure for the same period in 1946.

#### MINING.....

Estimated employment.....77,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 3,500

Employment in the gold mining industry(19,000) remains depressed due chiefly to the limiting effect of three factors. These are: (1) fixed price (2) increasing costs and (3) shortage of suitable labour.

Statements made by various mine officials interviewed this summer by the Employment Forecast Survey of the Department of Labour highlight some of the salient points in connection with these factors. In summarizing the employment situation in his Northern Ontario gold mine, one executive stated:

"Our rate of turnover is terrible, 25 left us last month and if it weren't for a core of old experienced miners who stay with us we would have been in a bad way. But these have been mining gold all their lives and are reaching their limits. Younger men are not entering mines and it looks to me like immigration is the only cure."

A second mine in the same area reported:

"Our costs have increased enormously, lumber 100 per cent....I wish I knew why the government is so down on us. I realize they haven't much control over exchange rates which affect gold price but they could make things easier by raising depletion and depreciation allowances. Last time we were in Ottawa depletion rates were increased some but not up to the old 50 per cent figure....the increase to approximately 40 per cent was neither here nor there."



A similar labour situation is evident in base metal mining, although these mines have had the benefit of more satisfactory price arrangements this year. In advocating immigration as a cure for the labour shortage, a Sudbury area mine official commented:

"I'm about fed up with the labour situation. Last month we hired 398 and had a net gain of 15. You can't keep a mine and smelter going on any such basis."

Isolated location intensified the problem for one company who reported:

"While we have 500 on the roll, only 450 are working at one time - absenteeism. Truck drivers have always been a bottleneck.....common labourers are unobtainable."

Because of these conditions, only a very slight increase in employment, about 3 per cent, is forecast for the metal mining industry in the last half of 1947. This movement will be contra-seasonal, however, as the annual peak is normally reached early in the year.

#### FORESTRY, FISHING, AND TRAPPING.....

Estimated employment.....87,000

Unfilled vacancies.....12,300 (logging only)

#### Pulpwood Logging-Manitoba and Eastward

Over 80 per cent of the registered labour demand in the logging industry at the first of August was for eastern Canada pulpwood loggers. By region this was divided as follows, Quebec - 5,000; Prairies (mainly the Lakehead district in Ontario) - 3,300 and Ontario - 1,700.

At the first of August, the seasonal low of employment for pulpwood logging in the east had been reached at 25,000, or 48 per cent above the figure at the same date last year. Last winter, a high of 70,000 was reached in the bush around the first of February and for this year employers forecast an employment level of 50,000 at October 1 rising to 61,000 by January 1, 1948. These represent increases of 29 per cent and 16 per cent respectively over the corresponding dates in the previous season.

High turnover and shortage of labour are limiting production in many camps. A large Quebec pulp and paper company reports:

"Employment conditions with us are bad. In the woods, we have a turnover of 300 per cent. During this season, we had a maximum of 3,000 workers, but we had to employ over 10,000 men to reach that maximum."

"In the 1946-47 season, we were able to cut only 170,000 cords whereas we actually need 300,000. We may have to close our mill by May 1948, unless we can find, somewhere, 60,000 to 80,000 additional cords. We use 225,000 cords a year, but in order to build up our inventory we are setting our aim at 300,000. We may cut wood and ship by rail, but this method is extremely expensive".

This company expects the present high level of demand for newsprint to continue and says that they could dispose of double its production.

Table I---Industry Employment Trend 1946 - 47

Date	1946	1947
January 1.....	42,829	52,464
February 1.....	55,992	60,709
March 1.....	46,946	57,502
April 1.....	21,860	29,452
May 1.....	23,158	24,374
June 1.....	23,200	31,168
July 1.....	19,561	27,752
August 1.....	16,792	24,848
September 1.....	24,186	
October 1.....	38,692	50,000(b)
November 1.....	54,720	
December 1.....	72,310	
January 1, 1948.....		61,200(b)

(b) Forecast

### British Columbia Logging

In B.C. where the emphasis is on lumber rather than pulpwood logging, the effect of seasonality is much less marked than in the east. In general, logging is carried on all year round, with a slight drop in winter employment due to unfavourable weather conditions. In connection with seasonality, the H.R. MacMillan Export Co. reported:

"It is expected that there will be a seasonal increase in the autumn followed by decline as men move to other industries for the winter".

Employment in bush work, 16,000 at June 1, has averaged 26 per cent over 1946 in the first six months of this year. A very slight increase, possibly to 17,000 men, is forecast before October 1, with a seasonal drop of 2,000 before January 1, 1948.

Table II---Industry Employment Trend

Date	1946	1947
January 1.....	10,361	11,979
February 1.....	10,261	12,440
March 1.....	10,766	14,024
April 1.....	11,947	15,302
May 1.....	12,188(a)	15,463
June 1.....	1,243	16,116
July 1.....	8,031(a)	
August 1.....	12,072	
September 1.....	12,895	
October 1.....	13,468	16,774
November 1.....	14,294	
December 1.....	13,220	
January 1, 1948.....		14,608

(a) Strike months

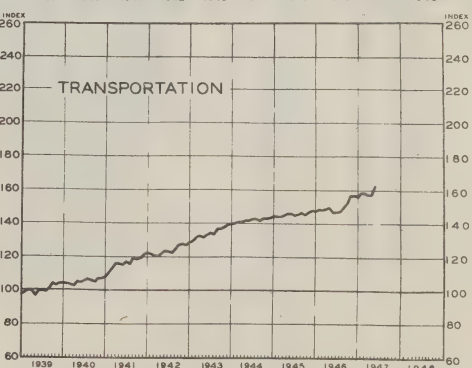
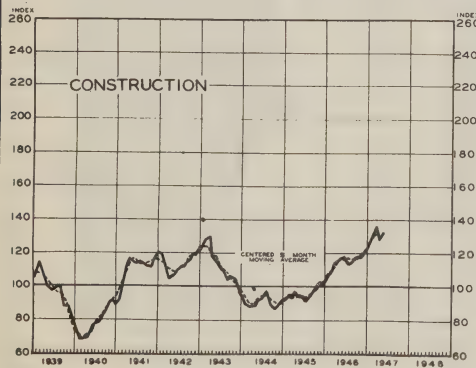
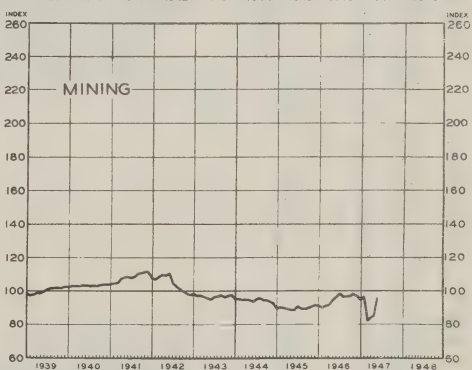
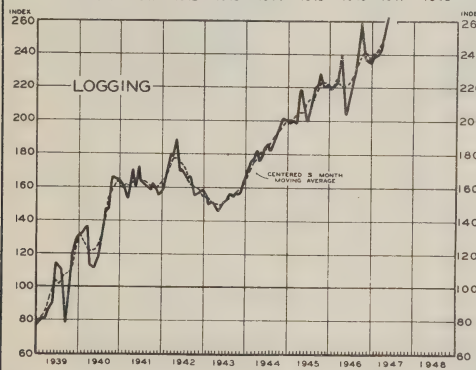
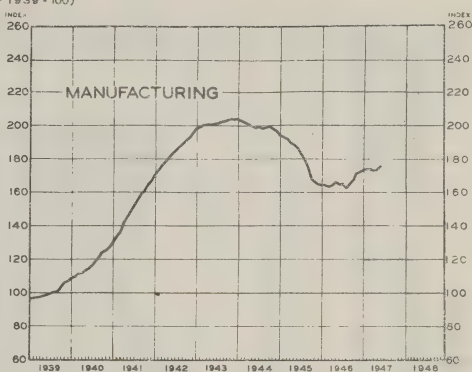
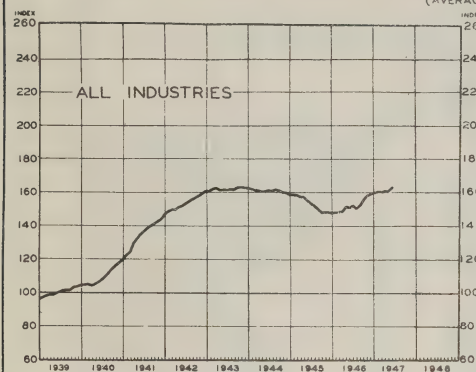
(b) Forecast

# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

## SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

### FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE = 1939 = 100)





# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

## MAJOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

(INDUSTRIES GROUPED ACCORDING TO GENERAL USE OF PRODUCTS)

1946 — 1947

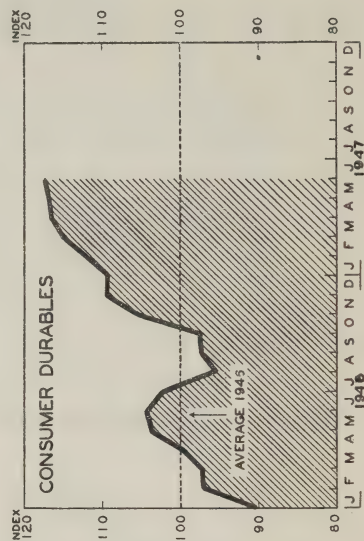
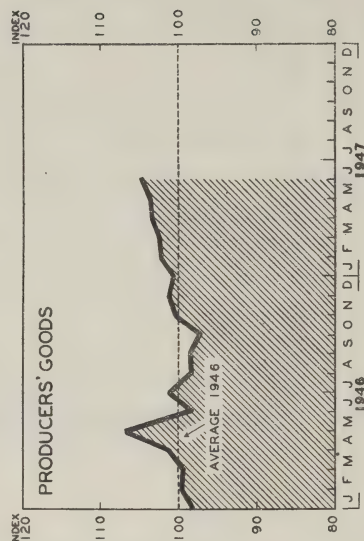
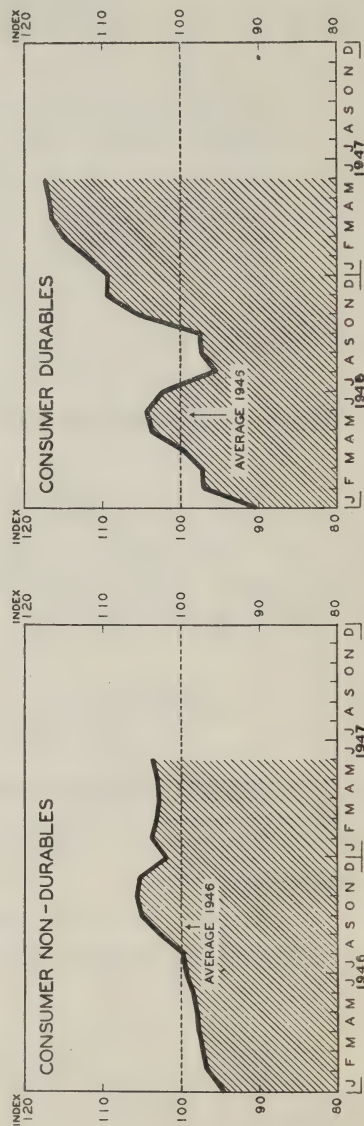
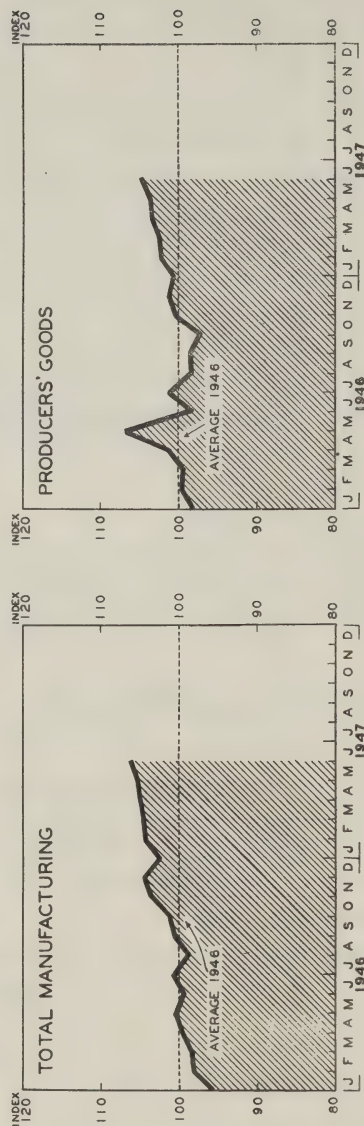


Table III—Average Hours and Hourly Earnings - Average Weekly  
Wages In Major Canadian Industries

(Source: Labour and Prices Br. D.B.S.)

Item	June 1, 1947	May 1, 1947	April 1, 1947	June 1, 1946	June 1, 1945
<u>MANUFACTURING</u>					
Av. hours.....	42.9	43.2	43.2	42.0	44.3
Av. hourly earnings...¢	79.8	78.3	77.6	69.1	70.3
Av. weekly wages.....\$	34.23	33.83	33.52	29.02	31.14
<u>Iron and Steel Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	43.4	43.6	44.9	42.0	43.6
Av. hourly earnings...¢	91.2	90.5	90.0	80.0	81.9
Av. weekly wages.....\$	39.58	39.46	39.24	33.60	36.77
<u>Textile Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	41.5	41.8	41.7	40.2	42.6
Av. hourly earnings...¢	61.7	61.5	60.7	54.5	51.4
Av. weekly wages.....\$	25.61	25.71	25.31	21.91	21.90
<u>Pulp and Paper Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	45.5	45.8	45.5	44.8	45.9
Av. hourly earnings...¢	89.5	82.2	82.2	73.2	70.4
Av. weekly wages.....\$	40.72	37.65	37.85	32.79	32.03
<u>Edible Plant Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	41.5	42.0	41.8	41.5	42.1
Av. hourly earnings...¢	64.7	63.7	63.0	56.9	55.0
Av. weekly wages.....\$	26.85	26.75	26.33	23.61	23.16
<u>Edible Animal Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	43.6	43.5	43.0	43.2	44.2
Av. hourly earnings...¢	74.2	74.9	75.4	65.9	62.6
Av. weekly wages.....\$	34.23	33.83	32.42	29.02	27.67
<u>MINING</u>					
Av. hours.....	40.3	43.4	43.2	43.3	43.0
Av. hourly earnings...¢	97.4	96.6	95.8	86.1	85.0
Av. weekly wages.....\$	39.25	41.92	41.43	37.28	36.55
<u>BUILDING CONSTRUCTION</u>					
Av. hours.....	39.0	39.7	38.9	37.4	40.5
Av. hourly earnings...¢	90.7	89.3	88.1	82.2	81.1
Av. weekly wages.....\$	35.37	35.45	34.27	30.74	32.85





## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following is a brief summary of July labour market conditions in each of the five regions, Maritime, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie, and Pacific.

Table I---Unplaced Applicants by Region, at Selected Dates

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

Region	July 31, 1947			July 3, 1947	August 1, 1946
	Male	Female	Total	Total	Total
Maritime.....	13,600	2,500	16,100	18,500	23,400
Quebec.....	17,500	7,400	24,900	30,200	42,000
Ontario.....	17,800	10,800	28,600	32,000	46,100
Prairie.....	10,200	5,200	15,400	19,100	26,200
Pacific.....	10,300	3,600	13,900	14,700	22,900
Canada .....	69,400	29,500	98,900	114,500	160,600

### MARITIME REGION.....

General conditions show basic improvement---Unplaced applicants declined by 2,400 during July under the pressure of seasonal expansion in agriculture, construction, and pulpwood logging. The labour surplus now is some 7,000 below last year's level. Much of this improvement is due to large-scale transfers of unemployed workers to jobs in Ontario; the chief movement has been from the Cape Breton area. Unemployment is still severe in the Cape Breton and New Glasgow areas, and transfers will continue during August. The situation in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island is much brighter.

Crops fair, farm labour plentiful---Weather was favourable for the hay harvest and an average crop is reported. Grain crops are late. The apple harvest will not equal last year's. There have been no serious shortages of harvest labour.

Apple producers are faced with the loss of the British market since Britain must conserve her dollar credits. No contracts have been signed for any shipments to the United Kingdom, and the crop will be sold through the Apple Marketing Board. The Federal Government has announced

that steps will be taken to compensate growers for the loss of the U.K. apple market.

Logging industry must fight to keep skilled men---When weather conditions improve, the pulpwood industry will increase production. At present, demand for pulp cutters is heavy and wages are good, but the heat and flies discourage workers from accepting employment in the woods.

Regional competition for skilled woodsmen is looming in the near future. A campaign now is underway to recruit New Brunswick loggers for the British Columbia industry, offering very attractive wage and working conditions. But in view of the heavy season expected this winter, the New Brunswick industry will need all the skilled loggers it can obtain. Prices for lumber are high, wages and working conditions good, and so Maritime operators will probably put up a stiff resistance to the campaign.

House-building slackens, other construction booms---Construction progress is smoother. Residential building has been curtailed by rising costs---the average wage earner cannot afford to build for himself, and no rental housing is being built other than the Central Mortgage and Housing projects. The strain on labour and material supplies has eased and commercial, highway and engineering projects are forging ahead. Highway projects, chiefly the grading and paving of old roads, are employing many men, but steel shortages have eliminated any bridge building for this year. Sufficient labour has been available to meet demands, except in districts such as Fredericton where lack of housing accommodation prevents the movement of workers to the area.

Repercussions from falling fish prices---The fishing industry has suffered a major set-back from the falling prices in its U.S. market. The war had cut out most foreign competition while meat rationing helped to build a ready demand for fish. Now, however, Newfoundland competition is again a factor to contend with and meat rationing has ended. Thus the supply of fish is greater and demand smaller - the resulting price decline is already having repercussions on other segments of the Maritime economy, especially in Nova Scotia where the fishing industry is concentrated. Several wooden shipbuilding yards have closed, shoo mills are less active, and salt mines are curtailing production.

Coal mining outlook bright---Coal production is on the upgrade. Great increases in the Cape Breton area have raised output to a level comparable with 1939.

The situation in the Minto district of New Brunswick is somewhat unsettled. A slackening in orders and the imminent removal of the Government subsidy, are the two disturbing factors.

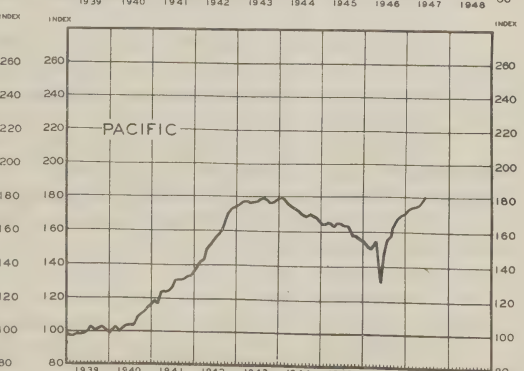
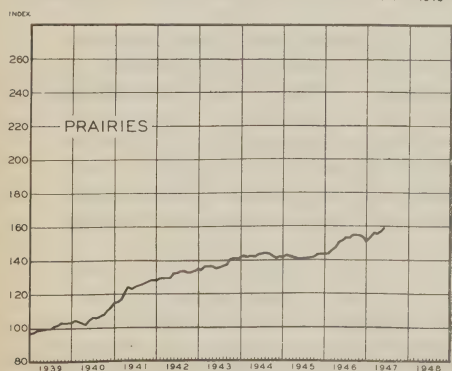
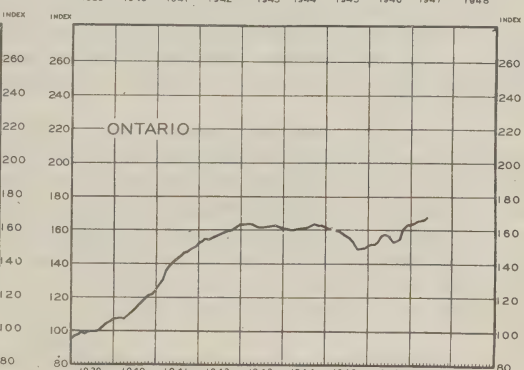
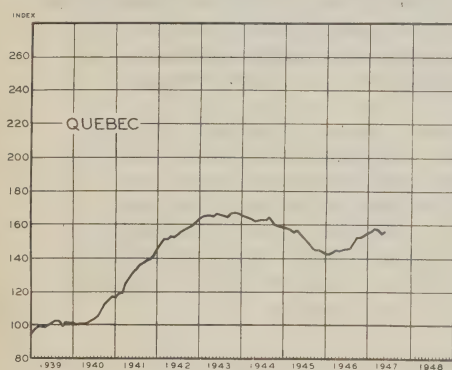
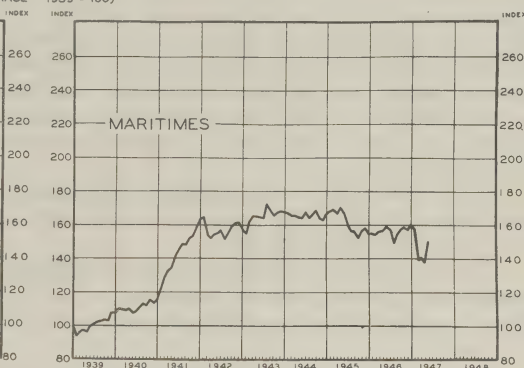
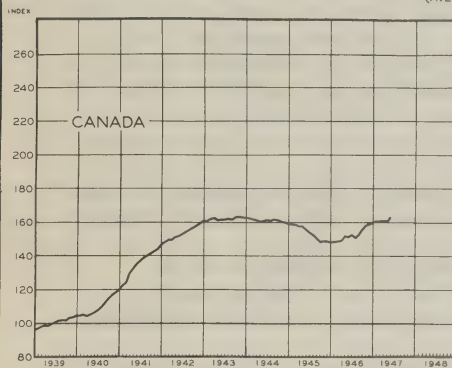
Manufacturing nears seasonal peak---Manufacturing firms are very active. Steel production has reached the highest peak on record at the Sydney steel plant. Planing mills, woodworking plants and pulp-mills are operating at capacity. The textile industry cannot obtain full production because of the scarcity of skilled workers, and is recruiting male trainees.

# REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)





### Halifax

The most notable news of current interest concerns a market curtailment of selling activity in the fishing industry. Market conditions in United States and central Canada have combined to give the deep sea fishing industry a major setback. It has been reported that Newfoundland fishing interests have flooded the larger buying centres of the United States with products considerably below the price level in Nova Scotia. The ending of meat rationing in Canada has had an additional effect of cutting down demand for fish products in the home market.

Leading fish companies are considering a cut in prices. Plans would also include a temporary shut-down of some plants; no major lay-offs have been reported as yet.

British contracts for Maritime lumber are expected to be renewed in 1948 at about the same level as this year. Employment in this industry is expected to remain at a fairly high level for some time to come.

The level of export trade in the fishing and lumbering industries will play a decisive role in the making of future employment levels. Any major slump in the fishing industry in particular would deliver a decisive blow to current attempts to keep employment at a reasonably high level.

Other news of importance to this area concerns a very helpful and timely increase in shipbuilding activity. Halifax Shipyards has secured a seven million dollar contract from the Argentine Government. Work on three naval passenger ships for the Argentine is expected to get underway by the middle of October. It is possible that another 900 men will be added to the present working force of 1,600. Employment of 2,500 men during the peak construction period would bring the shipyard's strength up to the level maintained during the war years.

### New Glasgow-Pictou

The fishing industry in this area as in other Maritime centres, is showing the effects of a greatly reduced buyer's market. This in turn has caused a substantial cut in fish prices. Several fish processing plants have closed down as a result.

The lack of adequate employment statistics prevents an accurate assessment of the effect which a slump in fishing activity would have on this area. However, the mere fact that numerous fish packing plants are located here, which are in turn served by men actively engaged in fishing operations, makes this source of employment of vital importance to a substantial number of workers. Further, current conditions are poor, and little alternative employment is available. In 1945, there were 14,413 men engaged in fishing, and 4,241 engaged in packing plants in Nova Scotia.

Within other manufacturing, the Eastern Car Company will complete the C.P.R. order for steel hopper cars this month, and a temporary lay-off of from 300-400 men is expected. These men will be rehired when production starts on an order for 1,700 box cars.

Such marked fluctuations have characterized employment in this company since the end of the war. These variations cause area employment to rise and fall concomitantly, a large part of it is provided by the Eastern Car Company.

Current overall employment in New-Glasgow has declined slightly, as compared with the level at the same time last year. Unemployment is still severe.

### Saint John

In comparison with other Maritime centres, Saint John's industrial position is comparatively strong. Aside from the Saint John Drydock for which future prospects are still rather obscure, other industries such as foodstuffs, lumber products, pulp and paper, and non-ferrous metals manufacturing are on a strong footing. Concerted efforts are being made to maintain the Saint John Drydock as an important employer of labour in this city. This firm now is working on an order for the repairing of five ships. Consequently, most of the many men laid-off during July have been rehired.

Non-manufacturing is still the mainstay of employment in this city. For about every six men employed in manufacturing there are eight employed in non-manufacturing. Hotels, restaurants, rooming houses, and over-night camps are exceptionally busy as Saint John is experiencing the heaviest influx of tourists in history. Consequently, the service industry is in urgent need of workers, with little relief in sight. Female office workers are still scarce. There are more applicants applying for sales work but employers state that the majority are not suitable, for various reasons.

The number of unplaced male applicants rose during July; a similar increase took place last year. A combination of low port activity and the termination of fishing at this time of year helps to increase the number of unplaced applicants on file. This year's fishing was particularly bad, the majority of men had to cease operations. Most of the male job seekers now on file are unskilled, but a large number of seamen are also idle.

### Sydney

Production in local steel mills and coal mines is in marked contrast with the pre-strike record. All departments of the Sydney Steel Plant are working steadily with production of steel at the highest peak in the history of this company. Production increase is credited to stepped-up efficiency of operation.

All coal mines are working steadily with an increase in production noted. The Dominion Coal Company announced their intention of opening a new shaft in the Lingan area, which will make 150 million tons of coal available. A number of miners are still unemployed; these men resigned from their positions during the strike and as a result have lost all seniority rights. It is expected that a large percentage of them will ultimately be absorbed in local mines. These workers have been offered jobs in western Canada but did not accept because working conditions in that area are reported to be inferior to those in local mines.

With the two main industries at full production unplaced applicants still number around the 4,000 mark. As was previously stated,



any reduction in unemployment since the strike, has been due principally to an emigration of workers to more prosperous areas in central Canada. During July, 150 girls were sent to Ontario but as employment conditions for women are better than for men, it is unlikely that many more women will be sent out of the area after the end of August.

#### QUEBEC REGION.....

River drives completed--Most of the river drives were completed during July and employment is at the summer low. Some men have been hired for cutting operations, or, in a few cases, for improvements and camp construction work, but the flies are still very bad in the woods. Employment will not show any upturn until the end of August.

Labour situation increasingly difficult in mining industry--The supply of labour for producing mines is critically low. Miners continue to leave, more or less temporarily, for farm and woods employment during the summer season. With such a difficult manpower situation, it is natural that the mining industry hopes for some relief from immigration. It has been estimated that over 1,000 men are required for underground work in the Rouyn-Noranda district, alone.

There have been several wage increases effected in the industry. Gold mines in the Malartic district have reached an agreement with the C.I.O. with respect to wages, with a 10 cents increase for underground men decided upon. A general 10 cent-an-hour increase to all hourly rated employees has also been announced by Noranda Mines, Ltd., making the basic wage of miners 98 cents, and of helpers, 91 cents. This is the second wage increase announced from Noranda this year, and it is hoped that this voluntary advance may assist in attracting and holding workers.

Little change in manufacturing--During July a large number of manufacturing plants closed for one or two weeks for the summer vacation period. As the trend towards holidays with pay progresses in industry, it is noticeable that more and more plants are adopting the policy of closing so that employees may all be on holiday at the same time. This is especially true in industry where work is highly interdependent. The absence of one man in a crew may make it impossible for the remainder to work without extensive rearrangement of duties. It is much simpler to have all on holiday at the same time. The opportunity can then be taken for general maintenance work.

The seasonal low-point in the garment industry was reached in July and Montreal manufacturers of women's dresses now are returning to full activity for production of autumn styles. It is reported, however, that the whole of the secondary manufacturing industry is very much disorganized by employees prolonging their holidays far in excess of the official period.

The footwear industry in Quebec City has been affected by the cancellation of export orders. Three hundred workers now are idle in this city's footwear industry, in addition to a considerable number of employees who were forced to go on a part-time schedule.



### Chicoutimi

Logging, which ranks second only to the aluminum industry as a major source of employment in the area, now employs in the neighborhood of 1,500 men. Approximately 1,000 men are engaged in cutting operations and an additional 500 are required. Four hundred men are working on the river drive, the latter operation needing an additional 150 workers to fill present requirements.

Currently, production at the Aluminum Company of Canada is hampered by the severe lack of labour. With a large volume of outdoor employment offering (e.g. road building, construction and logging), workers are reluctant to accept jobs in the pot-rooms of the aluminum works during the hot summer months. Orders have been placed in clearance throughout the region for aluminum pot-room labourers.

The construction industry is very active, with industrial building predominating. Labour requirements in this field are readily filled owing to comparatively high wages. Road construction on the Quebec - Laterriere highway employs 300 men at present. This project will continue throughout the summer and fall as long as weather conditions permit.

### Montreal

Employment conditions in the Montreal area continued to be favourable during July. At the end of the month unplaced applicants numbered 8,000, a record low for the first eight months of 1947.

Following a temporary lull, the secondary textile industry now is returning to full production in preparation for the autumn season. Released workers have been recalled and recruiting for additional labour resumed.

The heavy manufacturing industry (primary steel, foundries, heavy machinery, etc.) is generally quiet at the present time owing to the fact that many plants are closed down for the summer vacation period. The latter half of August will see a marked increase in production in this field.

The Canadian Car and Foundry will shortly resume its all-out production program producing railway rolling stock. As the company recalls its employees under seniority rights of its collective bargaining agreement, other plants which have temporarily absorbed these workers will experience extreme difficulty in obtaining replacements in the open labour market.

Tourist trade is extremely active, thus providing a stimulus to the service and retail trade industries. Labour shortages here are serious with turnover continuing high. The latter problem is being studied by several large employers to whom the constant training of new personnel is a most expensive overhead item.

### Quebec

The large number of unplaced applicants has edged steadily downward during the past two months due to a pick-up in seasonal industries such as construction, agriculture, and woods work. Some

employment gains were also achieved in scattered non-seasonal activities. While the overall surplus of labour fell off during this period, the supply of available female workers increased. This increase was due in part to the desire of many women to obtain summer jobs or to supplement family income with steady work.

Although leather goods manufacturing and textiles are quiet at present, increased activity is evident in heavy iron and steel manufacturing industry. The shipyards at Quebec now are employing approximately 600 workers. Contracts on hand guarantee a high level of employment for at least a year, providing materials are available.

The city of Quebec now has sold all available space in the former St. Malo arsenal buildings to private industry, but very few are operating as yet. Repair work and renovation of the buildings is being carried on but actual hiring of labour will not reach a peak until next winter or spring.

#### Shawinigan Falls

Total reported employment is still below the war-time peak. However, the post-war employment slump was almost entirely due to production cut-backs of production in the aluminum industry - in that sector assigned purely to war manufacturing for the aircraft industry. The aluminum industry now is expanding continually in the manufacturing of peacetime goods, for which consumer demand is very high, guaranteeing production for many months.

Insofar as the number of unplaced applicants is concerned, conditions are better than in 1946. The general level is about equal to 1945 before the end of the war. Thus, high employment in other industry, particularly in construction, has compensated for the drop in employment in the aluminum industry.

The value of construction permits in the first six months of 1947 was \$3,665,000 compared to \$970,000 for the same period in 1946. The construction industry played a vital part in helping this area to recover from the slump in war manufacturing employment.

As was stated last month, the aluminum, chemical, and textile industries are all in the midst of expansion plans and at this time the future outlook for these three industries looks promising. Recently the Carbide Division of Shawinigan Chemicals has increased production and employment. The Aluminum Co. of Canada is going all out in its production expansion plans.

#### Sherbrooke

Insofar as employment operations are concerned, the first half of July was very quiet because of the holiday period. August will see employment operations back to the pre-holiday level. Demand for labour is still heavy, with few suitable applicants available.

The textile industry in this city is working at the maximum capacity possible under present shortages of both raw material and labour. One local textile mill needs some 700 additional workers in order to operate at full capacity.

It has become evident that while the present high level of employment continues, with a shortage of female workers in the Montreal and Sherbrooke regions, women will not accept work in the textile industry while more attractive work can be secured in other industry. There is a reluctance to accept work in the textile industry because of (a) the type of work involved, (b) shift work in many plants (c) relatively low wages.

Expansion and modernization of both plant and production facilities is extensive in the Sherbrooke area. Plans to increase plant efficiency are accompanied by efforts to improve working conditions.

Hours of work and wages have been made more attractive during the past few years. From 1943 to 1946 the average hourly rate in primary textiles manufacturing increased about 22 per cent, while the average weekly hours worked decreased by about 4 per cent. In 1943 the average hourly rate in primary textiles in Quebec for female workers was 37 cents. The hourly rate ranged from an average 34 cents in woollen yarn and cloth manufacturing, to 40 cents in cotton yarn and cloth manufacturing. Wages gradually increased, until by 1946 the average hourly rate in primary textiles had risen to 45 cents, ranging from 42 cents per hour in knitting mills, to 50 cents per hour in cotton yarn and cloth manufacturing.

The average weekly hours for female workers in primary textiles were 46.9 in 1943. A breakdown of primary textiles shows that average weekly hours in 1943 were 45.5 in knitting mills, and 49.3 in woollen yarn and cloth manufacturing. The decline in average weekly hours from 1943 to 1946 in primary textiles was comparatively small - from 46.9 to 45.1. In 1946, average weekly hours under the primary textiles classification ranged from 43.2 in cotton yarn and cloth manufacturing to 48.5 in rayon yarn and fabrics.

### Three Rivers

Unplaced applicants showed only a slight drop (101) during July which was almost entirely limited to the male labour field, the decline in female applicants being negligible.

Field reports, state that employment in the majority of manufacturing plants in the area remained stable during the past month. The Canadian International Paper, however, was an exception to the general rule, taking on an additional 30 labourers for yard operations.

The higher level of employment evidenced in this area during the past few months has been almost entirely due to seasonal activity in construction and related industries. The building of a bridge between Three Rivers and Cap de la Madeleine, the construction of a new wing to the Cook Hospital, and the Bell Telephone's work in putting wires underground are a few of the many projects employing skilled men and labourers for the summer and fall.

### Valleyfield

Unplaced applicants, which have been on the downgrade since early spring, showed signs of increasing at the beginning of August.

Activity in the construction industry is tapering off. Building of private houses is practically at a standstill. A large Foundation Company of Canada project will be completed in August at



which time approximately 150 construction labourers will be released, with little alternative work offering.

The War Assets Corporation is reducing its staff from 900 to 200. So far, 200 female workers have been laid off and the remaining 500 will be released during August and September. These workers however are covered by the Unemployment Insurance Act.

Local textile mills are working at a high capacity level with the demand for experienced spinners and weavers remaining strong. Other manufacturing industries in the area appear to be slowing down during the summer months.

#### ONTARIO REGION.....

Agricultural labour demand continues--From every part of Ontario the demand for farm help has been very high. The number of men who came from the west this year was disappointing. Only about 1,000 reached Ontario, although the original requirements were estimated at 2,000 and more could have been utilized had they been available. Quebec region recruited experienced farm hands, despatching them to the areas in Ontario where help shortages were most acute. This is the first instance of Quebec harvesters being recruited in large numbers for Ontario. Usually the two provinces are equally busy at the same time. Weather accounted for the changed conditions.

Heavy rainfall in part of July increased the amount of work involved in handling the hay and thereby intensified the farm labour shortage.

Forestry and mining also short of workers--Pulpwood companies require large numbers of men. In view of the continuing demand for paper no reduction in the number of workers needed for pulpwood operations is expected during the coming season. The importation of some 1,400 displaced persons to work in the northern Ontario pulpwood camps should relieve the pressure to some extent.

The need for men in the mining industry is continuing. Base metal mine wage rates have increased to 96½ cents per hour for mine beginners and 85 cents-per-hour for surface workers. But although these wages are the highest offered in the region for unskilled labour, the flow of men to base metal mines is by no means sufficient to meet demand.

Situation in manufacturing relatively quiet--The increasing trend toward complete shutdown for vacations appreciably dampened industrial activity during July. An easing of the flow of materials to industry is evident. Demand for strong, active and willing workers continues, though there is small possibility that it can be met. On the other hand, male applicants for office jobs outnumber vacancies by more than two to one.

### Brantford

The agricultural implement manufacturing industry, the backbone of Brantford's prosperity, is flourishing at an all-time peak. Consumer demand, built up during the war years, will support this industry for some time to come, and, as the steel supply improves, local factories are approaching capacity production. Total reported employment in this industry showed a 10 per cent increase during the first five months of 1947, and field reports indicate that expansion continued during June and July.

The first week in August saw hiring activity at Massey-Harris reduced to a minimum, as this plant commenced its two-week inventory period to be followed by the vacation period. This company has cancelled all inter-regional clearance orders until full scale production is resumed. On the other hand, the Cockshutt Plow Company is extremely busy, completing orders before August 15, at which time the plant will close for the vacation period.

Other local industry is maintaining a high level of employment, and labour demand, particularly in the textile, food processing and construction industries is strong.

### Hamilton

The gap between unfilled vacancies and unplaced applicants in the Hamilton area continues to widen as the summer season advances. Unplaced applicants at the end of July were lower than at any previous date in 1947, and it is indicated that a further drop will occur before the end of September.

The heavy iron and steel industry, Hamilton's principal source of employment, appears to be hardest hit by the current labour shortage. Skilled men, particularly machinists, toolmakers and die setters are almost impossible to obtain either locally, or through regional clearance orders. The lack of this type of worker is being felt throughout the country.

A number of companies are attempting to obtain workers with the required skill and experience from Great Britain through the immigration scheme now in effect. Heavy foundry labour, as always, is in short supply.

In the female labour field requests for office personnel and sales clerks form the bulk of labour demand. There are also a large number of vacancies in the textile industry. A survey of job registrants at the end of July revealed that 56 per cent of the female unplaced applicants were married women. Of the remaining 44 per cent single girls, 75 per cent were under twenty years of age. Over half of the latter were students seeking only summer employment.

### Kingston

The employment situation in the shipbuilding industry has improved markedly of late. Steel supplies now are more regular, thus permitting work to be resumed after a delay of several months. The Kingston Shipbuilding Company is gradually recalling employees who were laid-off during May because of material shortages.

Construction of a new freighter has been started and the above company has a contract pending for repair work on a number of corvettes. If this contract materializes there will be sufficient work to keep all hands busy until the close of the navigation season, at which time winter repair work on the lake boats will commence.

The Canadian Locomotive Company is not very active at present and will close down for a two-week vacation period during August.

A number of large industrial construction projects now are underway in the Kingston area, including two new extensions to the Hotel Dieu Hospital. Demand for bricklayers and carpenters is strong; it is possible that more carpenters will be available shortly, as a war-time housing project nears completion.

### Niagara Falls

Employment continues at a high level in the Niagara Falls area, with practically all available help employed.

The Dominion Chair Company has recalled the small number of employees who were laid-off last month because of material shortages; in addition, several new employees have been taken on. Employment in other plants in the iron and steel manufacturing category showed no appreciable changes during the past month.

A number of heavy labourers are needed in the abrasive and chemical manufacturing industries, but otherwise labour demand has been satisfied.

With district fruit crops well below average this year, local canning factories will not be so hard pressed for labour as in former years. Grape growers, however, expect a bumper crop this fall and demand for fruit pickers and unskilled labour for the wineries will be heavy.

Construction activity remains at a high level with work continuing on several large industrial projects and to a much lesser degree on private house construction. Orders are now on hand for 22 carpenters, 12 bricklayers and 26 construction labourers.

### Kitchener - Waterloo

The recent decrease in job vacancies for both men and women is due to the general vacation period now in progress. There is also a marked increase in the number of workers applying for jobs in this area from outside points.

Local agricultural conditions may be considered as fair. Estimates are that the crop yield this year will be only 60 per cent of normal.

Material shortages are still holding back production in various industries such as iron and steel, radio, leather, and chemicals.

Indications are that the Canadian rubber industry will soon be overproducing, as far as domestic requirements are concerned. By this time, the United States home market is satisfied. One plant executive in Kitchener estimated that capacity production could be maintained until early 1948. After that, production would have to be cut back to conform with demand. The major part of the production in this plant was for the domestic market. It has been estimated that



between 60 - 70 per cent of Canadian rubber production is for the home market alone.

Currently, the large rubber industry in Kitchener requires many workers. As yet, there are no signs of any decrease in this demand which, of course, cannot be met because of the labour shortage which has persisted in this area for many months.

#### London

Industrial activity continues strong with no prospect of an immediate change in the present volume of production. Heavy industry, in particular, is operating at a near-capacity level, with a substantial backlog of orders for durable goods guaranteeing an all-out production program for several months ahead. Raw material supplies, in almost all cases, are reported satisfactory, with indications of a further improvement early in the fall.

Textile and leather goods manufacturers are maintaining as high a level of production as is possible under present conditions. But an acute lack of labour, combined with a high rate of turnover among the workers, prevents the majority of firms from keeping pace with orders on hand.

The tight manpower situation in the London area eased temporarily during July owing to the fact that many manufacturing plants are closed down at this time for the holiday and inventory taking period. It is expected, however, that early fall will see manpower shortages more stringent than at any time since the end of the war.

#### Oshawa

The beginning of August saw employment activity in the Oshawa labour market area at a virtual standstill. General Motors closed down for stock taking during the last week in July, and remained closed for a two-week holiday period immediately following.

Similarly, the majority of feeder plants, with the exception of the Ontario Steel Products Co. Ltd., have shut down for the annual vacation. Employees of Ontario Steel Products have been on strike for higher wages since July 16. Negotiations between the union and the company now are taking place, and an early settlement is anticipated.

The Robson Leather Co., is also strike bound at present. The International Fur and Leather Workers' Union is demanding a 25 cent-per-hour increase while the company's latest offer is 10 cents-per-hour; as yet, no compromise has been reached.

The garment manufacturing industry is gradually becoming more active after a seasonal slowdown during June. Workers for this industry are readily available.

#### Peterborough

The trend of both employment and production in this city during the past year shows a marked gain, and the peak has yet to be reached. While a significant amount of seasonal unemployment still occurs in the wintertime because of a slump in construction and agricultural work, it

has never reached serious proportions. In most cases it is because workers are inadaptable to other industry.

The most notable labour shortage at present is in the construction industry where there is a great need for all types of construction workers.

Manufacturing has been very quiet during the past month, as practically all factories in Peterborough have adopted the practice of closing down the entire plant, except the office staff, for a vacation period.

One exception is the Canada Packers' plant which is busier at this time than for many years, and is having difficulty in securing labour. Quaker Oats needs men, but the type of heavy labour this plant requires is not available.

The Canadian General Electric Co., has signed a new contract with the United Electrical Workers, C.I.O., thus removing any threat of a strike. Labour relations in Peterborough plants are remarkably good. During the general labour turmoil of 1946 on the whole, local plants continued to operate full-time.

Wholesale and retail businesses are very busy because of the heavy tourist traffic.

Vacancies on file for women outnumber applicants. Competent office help is badly needed and a shortage of textile workers persists.

#### Sault Ste. Marie

The Algoma Steel Corporation, the iron and steel plant in Sault Ste. Marie, processes iron and steel from ore through to the finished and semi-finished products. In 1946 the company had five blast furnaces, 12 open-hearths, and rolling mills. Its capacity was about 736,000 tons of ingots yearly, which places it slightly behind the other two primary producers of iron and steel products in Canada.

However, this company is Canada's main producer of heavy structural shapes. In line with other primary steel producers, Algoma is operating at full capacity and will continue to do so while economic conditions permit. Canadian output of pig-iron in 1944 was 1,852,628 net tons, compared with 846,418 tons in 1939.

Continued high demand for labour in this area, with a high level of employment, rests solely on the iron and steel, and pulp and paper industries. At the moment, both pulp and paper mills and iron and steel plants across the country are working at peak capacity to meet demand for their products. So far there are no signs of diminishing demand.

There is very little labour available in this city. Demand for woodsmen is hard to meet because the only source of supply is transient labour, most of which is not satisfactory. An acute housing shortage in this city is causing a serious problem for local industries, which report that workers are leaving their employment daily because they cannot find accommodation for their families. Many of these men are skilled workers.

#### St. Catharines

Manufacturing employment as a whole has remained at a high level throughout the summer. Canning factories now are preparing for peak activity at the end of August and are endeavouring to line up prospective workers beforehand. Because of insufficient local help available, a number of factories

are recruiting workers from nearby towns and villages.

Local textile mills are still unable to secure sufficient workers. Experienced weavers, spinners and sewing machine operators are in particularly short supply.

The pulp and paper industry has been operating at capacity throughout the summer, their labour being supplied more easily than that of any other local industry.

The majority of factories in the iron and steel manufacturing category are closed down for two-weeks' holiday at present. When production is resumed, demand for labourers will again be heavy, with husky labourers for foundries and forge shops urgently required.

The construction industry continues active throughout the area, although a sizeable amount of planned construction has been postponed because of the high cost of materials and labour. There is sufficient work on hand, however, to produce shortages of all types of skilled labour, and to a lesser degree, of unskilled labour.

### Sudbury

International Nickel has job openings for many men at good rates of pay. This company now employs nearly 10,000 workers, excluding the Port Colborne refinery.

Local base metal mines report a fair gain in their labour force for July. The largest operator hired 802 men and had 413 quits in the same period. The number of resignations represents about 4 per cent of the staff. Normally, the number of quits is approximately 2 per cent. The increased turnover is principally due to the necessity of taking on any labour available, with the result that selection is limited and the type of worker often unsatisfactory.

Mining also faces the loss of a considerable body of labour when students return to universities and high schools. Some portion of the returning student body will be replaced by the usual seasonal movement of farm workers from the Prairies.

The mining, smelting, construction, lumbering, and pulp-cutting industries all need men. The demand for labour is heavier now than it was last year, and the type of labour required is scarce.

Indications are that logging operations may be somewhat smaller than last year, owing to considerable uneasiness concerning the export market, and the dollar supply situation in the United Kingdom.

### Toronto

Despite the seasonal lull in a number of manufacturing industries (i.e. meat packing, textiles, furniture, printing and publishing) demand for labour in the Toronto area continues to strengthen as the summer season advances.

In heavy manufacturing industry employment activity is temporarily at a standstill, owing to the fact that at least 60 per cent of the plants in this group are shut down for the holiday period. The material supply situation in this industry is progressively more satisfactory. September will see a large increase in the demand for skilled metal workers and labourers.



The service industries now are better supplied with help - dry cleaners, laundries, hotels and restaurants in particular hired students to a great extent during July and August. This is only a temporary measure, and labour will again be in extremely short supply at the end of the summer.

#### Welland

The acute shortage of labour continues to make itself felt in all phases of industrial activity in Welland.

Textiles, chemical products, and rubber goods manufacturing report production below normal owing to the lack of skilled and unskilled workers. It is expected that this situation will be further aggravated in the fall when students working for the summer months return to school.

Employment in the iron and steel industry continues on the uptrend, although some manufacturing plants in this category are held back by shortages of material, scrap iron in particular. During the past four months the Standard Steel Construction Company has increased its working force from 125 to 180 as a result of more adequate supplies of steel; the present staff will be increased to 200 if the supply situation continues to improve.

Grain crops are poor this year, and fruit crops light, although the latter are more plentiful than last year. Demand for harvest help is considerably weaker than in 1946, having been eased somewhat by the arrival of Polish veterans. A large number of workers will be needed for fruit and vegetable canning operations, which reach a peak during August.

#### Windsor

The majority of factories in the automobile industry are closed down from July 25 to August 11. A number of these plants use the first week for stock-taking, (the employees released being entitled to unemployment insurance) and the second week for holidays. Employees in Ford Motor Company and General Motors are given two weeks' vacations, and will not be eligible for benefits.

Despite the present inactivity in the automobile industry, demand for male labour remains fairly strong. Orders are numerous for skilled carpenters, bricklayers, sheet metal workers. Heavy labourers are needed for road building and construction.

The number of female unplaced applicants continues high, with little hope of a permanent improvement in the employment situation for women. Temporary jobs will be available for a large number of women during the canning season, providing applicants are willing to accept work in Chatham, Leamington and other canning centres outside Windsor.

PRAIRIE REGION.....

Drought exacts heavy toll of wheat crop--Extreme heat, and light rainfall has brought about a serious deterioration in Prairie grain prospects. Saskatchewan has been most severely affected, with Manitoba in the best comparative position of the three provinces. Nevertheless, a considerable need for eastern harvesters is expected. It is thought that harvesting requiring imported labour for stooking and threshing will get into full swing simultaneously in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. Consequently, the need for labour will be comparatively greater and the season shorter than in a normal year when men are moved from area to area.

In addition, it is reported that to a great extent the areas affected by drought are combine areas. Therefore, the depressing effect on labour demand will not be marked. Demand for harvest labour where grain is threshed will be substantial.

Several employers of Polish veterans in poor crop areas are asking for termination of their contracts. Transfers of veterans to more fortunate districts are taking place.

Livestock receipts edge upwards--Livestock receipts are slightly up at various points throughout the region. It is expected that unusually large shipments will be received early in the fall--especially from areas where crops and pastures are poor.

Lakehead grain shipment down 5 million in July--Daily unloadings of grain cars at the Lakehead dwindled to 525, in July, against 670 for June. Shipments out were reduced by about five million bushels as compared with June. The railways have been busy with the heavy wheat movement to Churchill in preparation for the opening of shipping early in August.

Seasonal low in logging--Forestry operations are at the low summer level. Orders on file for pulpwood cutters in northwestern Ontario are numerous, but employers do not expect much success in obtaining labour until the worst of the fly season is past. River drives have proceeded normally. There has been a considerable turnover of labour, but no real shortage.

Continuing labour need in coal mining--The demand for certificated miners and mine labourers in the coal industry is general throughout Alberta, with the exception of Medicine Hat. An arrangement now is underway to obtain mine labourers from the Maritimes for the Blairmore area. Housing remains one of the strongest limiting factors in any expansion of the work force.

The demand for labourers in hard rock mining will mount as it becomes necessary to replace university students leaving in September.

### Edmonton

The beginning of August 1946, saw the low point in the number of unplaced applicants. By the end of July this year applicants already numbered about 300 fewer than at the same time in 1946 and indications point to a further decline before seasonal employment tapers off in the fall.

It now is expected that a reasonably good crop will be harvested and cutting should commence about August 20. Agricultural labour supply is expected to be more adequate this year and only about 400 extra farm workers will be required when cutting operations commence. During July, 160 farm workers were sent out to jobs.

Vacancies for miners and labourers in the Yellowknife area are open but few men of the right type are available locally; some companies are shipping-in men from the Maritimes. A few local men are taking employment in northern B.C. gold mines.

Drilling for oil in the Leduc area is continuing with all Imperial Oil wells reported as producers. Other companies are not yet reported as producers chiefly because drilling is not far enough advanced.

Although there are no definite signs of an oil refinery being established, at least six firms dealing in the supply and maintenance of oil field equipment will spend an estimated \$250,000 on warehouse and plant facilities, and will employ an estimated 100 workers.

### Fort William - Port Arthur

The labour market situation has not changed greatly from last month in the sense that there are still innumerable jobs open with a marked scarcity of applicants. Unfilled vacancies declined slightly from the June 1 peak, but still number upwards of 3,000, while unplaced applicants continue to decrease. Any man who is willing and capable of doing heavy work can secure employment.

It has been emphasized that if labour were available, unfilled vacancies would be considerably higher; employers are not registering employment needs which they know cannot be met.

Manufacturing is very active with the exception of the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Co., which is hampered by material shortages and lack of foundry workers. Local paper mills, employing some 2,000 workers, are working at capacity. Out of town mills at Red Rock and Marathon need replacements from time to time.

All saw and planer mills are working full time; local mills alone employ 800 men. Port Arthur reports a constant demand for experienced sawyers and planer men. Over 2,000 men are still required by construction companies operating in this district.

Logging companies are prepared to open up new camps as soon as men become available. There is a heavy backlog of orders for woodsmen, but as yet hot weather, combined with bad fly conditions, are keeping men out of the woods.

The number of job openings in the logging industry is sufficient to absorb all labour laid-off in the transportation and construction industries in the late fall, but it remains to be seen how many of the men laid-off are both adaptable and willing to work in the logging industry.



### Winnipeg

The July 31 level of unplaced applicants in Winnipeg, has already dropped below the seasonal low-point reached in 1946. If the present downtrend in the number of unplaced applicants continues, and this is likely, a new post-war low will be reached.

Winnipeg is rapidly developing into a labour shortage area. When the harvest is in full swing an exodus of workers from this city to the harvest field will create a large shortage of labourers, particularly in the transportation and construction industries. Railways already report that many labourers are leaving to go haying at \$100 per month plus all found. The main movement of workers into agriculture will probably not take place until the latter part of August.

Complaints about shortages of materials in the construction industry are not so general, but most contractors deplore the lack of good workmen. Many small contractors say that they are turning down any private home construction as they cannot get experienced workmen, especially carpenters.

The acute shortage of workers in the needle trades persists and every suitable applicant is informed of the opportunities in the textile industry.

### PACIFIC REGION.....

Seasonal agricultural labour supply good—The general agricultural labour situation is satisfactory. Little difficulty in filling future demands is expected. With berry picking now successfully concluded in the Fraser Valley area, attention will turn to the fruit crop in the Interior. There appears to be an abundant supply of transient labour which will be sufficient for the initial picking period.

The hop harvest in the Fraser Valley area will require approximately 6,000 workers.

It is still difficult to obtain experienced dairy hands and permanent general farm labour. Higher wages appear to be the only possible solution to the problem.

Logging at high level—In general, the weather throughout July, has been favourable for woods operations. At the beginning of the month there were a few exceedingly dry areas. As humidity dropped to the danger point, several forest areas were closed as a precautionary measure, but intermittent showers have largely removed the possibility of fire hazard.

Labour demands are heavy, with very few experienced men available.

Shortage of men for the mines—There is a continuing need for a larger labour supply in the mining industry. It is reported that the major base metal operations are fairly adequately staffed, but that in gold mining the labour shortage is critical. The training programs of several large operators are making some contribution to the supply of skilled labour. Unfortunately, labour turnover counteracts these attempts to increase and maintain a full working force.

Industrial construction predominates--The general construction industry is rapidly expanding. With weather improvement and a slight easing in the material supply situation, large industrial projects are becoming more prominent, with residential construction showing a definite decline during July. The major work is being done outside the urban areas.

In the first seven months of 1947, the 6,419 building permits granted in Greater Vancouver were valued at \$22,390,918, showing a sizable drop from last year's first seven months when 7,393 permits, totalling \$26,153,659, were authorized.

The general labour requirements for the industry are quite heavy and can be expected to be maintained. Skilled carpenters, bricklayers, plasterers, and masons continue to be in short supply and the shortage will continue due to the increasingly large number of projects on which work is commencing.

### Vancouver

The post-war load of unemployment in Vancouver has been sharply reduced. Indicative of the downtrend is that the number of unplaced applicants at the end of July is no greater than the number existing at the same time in 1945. The large number of unplaced applicants on file during the summer of 1946 have been reduced by nearly 50 per cent. At the low point in the number of registered job seekers in 1946, October 1, applicants numbered 13,923 compared to the 9,134 on file at July 31, 1947. The unemployment rating for Vancouver has declined from 124 in June 1946, to 55 in June 1947.

Loggers now are back in camps and coast operators are paying the new wage scale. The need for donkey engineers in this industry is acute.

The lumber export trade has been moving chiefly through the port of New Westminster, which holds its position as leading lumber exporting port of the world. During the first six months of 1947 the deep sea loadings exceeded a total of 182,633,000 board feet - more than double the shipments during the same period in 1946. No other Pacific port has equalled the volume shipped through New Westminster for some time. About 50 per cent of the lumber exported goes to the United Kingdom with the balance being divided amongst many other countries.

Road construction jobs are employing thousands of men and many tractor drivers and heavy equipment mechanics are required, with none available. Most skilled construction workers in this city do not want to leave town to fill jobs in the many construction projects in the outside area.

Fishing activity in this area is very quiet because of conservation measures put into effect, and because this is considered the poorest cycle year.

# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

## A Key to the Area Tables

The area tables present statistical data on the labour market in 38 selected areas. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in each area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

The areas are classified according to the number of unplaced applicants registered with the local National Employment Service office. The classification is based on a ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 wage and salary workers at work.

An "unplaced applicant" at any particular moment is a person who is registered at an office of the National Employment Service who has either not been placed in a job by the employment service or for whom the employment service has had no notification of his obtaining a job on his own. It is obvious, therefore, that the number of unplaced applicants are not indicative of the total volume of unemployment in any area. In the first place, not all workers who are seeking jobs will register with N.E.S. It is probable that most of those covered by unemployment insurance will do so in order to collect unemployment insurance benefits if their period of unemployment is sufficiently long. But many workers do not come within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Act. Second, some workers who register with N.E.S. may be wanting merely to change jobs. At the time of registration, therefore, these workers would be already employed. Third, employment service regulations provide that when a worker registers for a job another contact need not necessarily be made with him by the employment service until 30 days have passed. If the worker obtains a job on his own during this period, the employment service may not be notified of this. In other words a worker may still be counted as an unplaced applicant despite the fact that he now has a job. Finally a worker may register for work at more than one local employment office. When this occurs there is the possibility that the same person may be counted twice as an unplaced applicant.

These qualifications in the meaning of the term "unplaced applicant" should be clearly borne in mind by any person who makes use of the term. They are due to the fact that the principal function of the National Employment Service is to match jobs to workers, not to collect statistics. But they do not render such statistics useless. At present, there is no statistical information available on the total volume of unemployment by area. This being the case, the number of unplaced workers registered with a local N.E.S. office is a very important fact to consider when evaluating labour market conditions in a particular area. It is in this spirit that figures on unplaced applicants are presented in the following tables.



In order to ascertain the relative level of unplaced applicants in various local office areas, this figure has been related to an estimate of the total number of wage and salary workers at work in each area. In other words, the number of unplaced applicants is compared with the size of the particular area as measured by the number of wage and salary workers at work.

In addition these ratios have been consolidated into four groups denoting four different general labour market situations:

Group I--Areas in which there are more than 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the Mid-Thirties.

Group II--Areas in which there are between 150 and 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group is characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III--Areas in which there are from 50 to 150 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV--Areas in which there are under 50 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Favourable, in the sense that it is comparable to conditions during the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be clearly understood that the above ratio is only a general method of classifying labour market conditions as they are pictured by the local N.E.S. office. The ratio attempts to do no more than that. It attempts to do just that because it is felt that labour market conditions in a particular local employment service office are an important fact in the overall employment situation.

The area tables present additional material relative to the current demand - supply picture. Definitions of some of the terms used are given below:

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities insofar as employers do not report vacancies to the employment service. "Jobs available during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but should indicate the trend of labour demand in comparison with figures for previous periods.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the employment service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer to N.E.S.

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Note: Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.  
 Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.  
 Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Pointe-aux-Trembles, St. Paul  
 l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.  
 Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.  
 Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney,  
 Sydney Mines.  
 Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

AS AT AUGUST 1, 1947

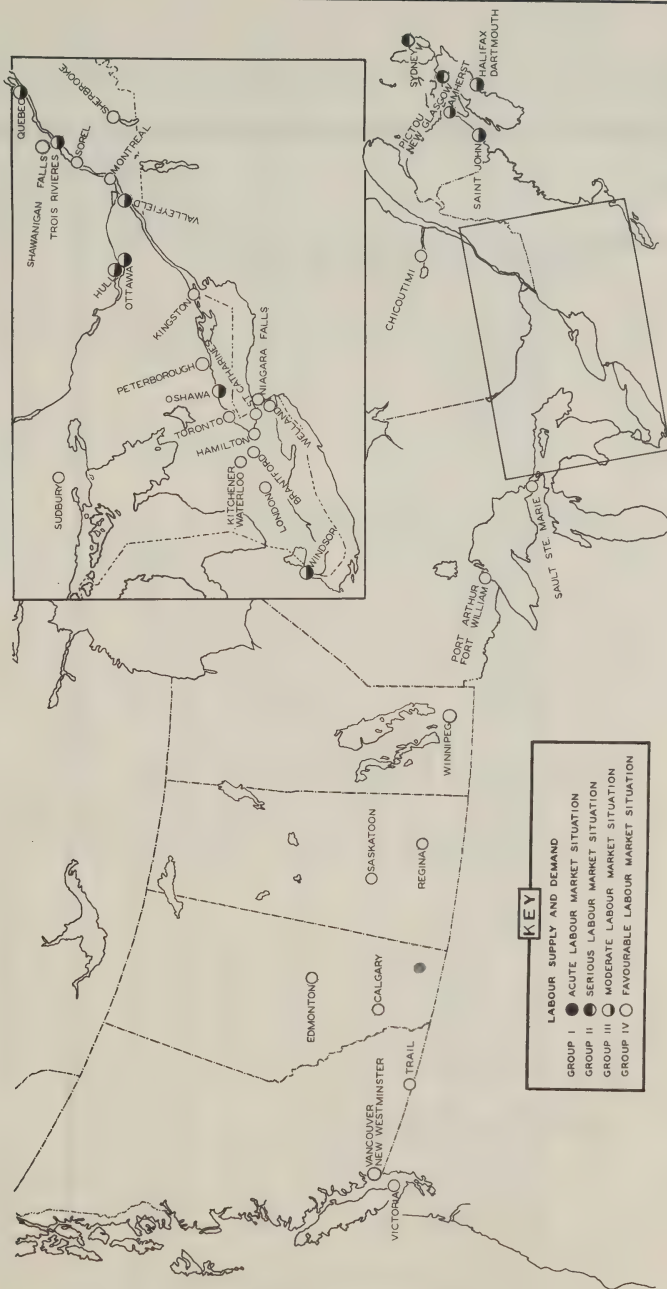


Table I--Index of Areas Analyzed in this Section

Note: The thirty-eight areas below are arranged according to the number of unplaced applicants in each as at August 1, 1947, in descending order. Comparable ratings are also given for two previous selected dates.

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		July 1 1947	August 1 1947	August 1 1946
	<u>Population of 100,000 and over</u>			
66	Quebec.....	III	III <sup>8</sup>	III
70	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
73	Windsor.....	III	III	II
75	Vancouver.....	III	IV	III
73	Winnipeg.....	III	IV	III
68	Hamilton.....	IV	IV	III
65	Montreal.....	IV	IV	IV
72	Toronto.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 50,000 to 100,000</u>			
64	Sydney.....	II	II	II
64	Saint John.....	III	III	III
63	Halifax.....	III	III	III
74	Calgary.....	IV	IV	III
68	Fort William-Port Arthur...	IV	IV	III
74	Edmonton.....	IV	IV	IV
69	London.....	IV	IV	IV
73	Regina.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 25,000 to 50,000</u>			
70	Oshawa.....	III	III	III
65	Hull.....	III	III	III
67	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
69	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
75	Victoria.....	IV	IV	IV
74	Saskatoon.....	IV	IV	IV
72	Sudbury.....	IV	IV	IV
71	St. Catharines.....	IV	IV	III
68	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
60	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
71	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
69	Kitchener-Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of under 25,000</u>			
64	New Glasgow-Pictou.....	II	II	I
63	Amherst.....	III	III	III
67	Valleyfield.....	III	III	I
60	Shawinigan Falls.....	III	IV	III
72	Welland.....	IV	IV	III
67	Sorel.....	IV	IV	III
65	Chicoutimi.....	IV	IV	III
75	Trail.....	IV	IV	IV
70	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	IV
71	Sault Ste. Marie.....	IV	IV	III



Item	Canada			Amherst			Halifax		
	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)	33	38	60		115	231	80	89	65
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	95,767	105,740	120,922		21	73	967	1,124	1,718
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	127,421	123,274	144,741	40	55	158	1,245	984	1,971
3. Total jobs available during month....	223,188	229,014	265,663	114	76	231	2,512	2,108	3,689
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	65,674	63,852	71,935	71	33	107	664	564	901
5. % casual placements.....	12.3	12.2	10.3	-	-	-	9.2	14.2	3.6
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	91,961	95,767	109,124	26	40	83	1,022	967	1,530
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	114,493	127,065	179,281	418	530	671	3,457	3,736	2,519
% female.....	29.3	23.4	21.1	12.9	9.1	26.2	17.9	15.6	16.0
% veterans.....	21.9	23.4	34.1	21.1	28.9	42.2	36.5	37.3	41.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more....	14.2	16.9	24.9	15.6	25.8	36.5	27.9	32.2	24.7
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	18.7	-	6.2	4.5	-	6.2	16.5	-	13.0
% 20 - 44 "	53.2	-	62.9	66.1	-	73.5	62.4	-	59.4
% 45 - 64 "	17.7	-	19.0	22.5	-	15.6	15.9	-	16.2
% over 65 "	10.4	-	11.9	6.9	-	4.7	5.2	-	11.4
2. Applicants registered during month....	114,072	119,685	143,209	158	187	246	1,697	1,830	2,329
3. Total workers available during month.	228,565	246,750	322,490	576	717	917	5,154	5,566	4,848
% referred.....	44.0	42.2	33.9	15.5	24.8	14.5	25.5	19.5	35.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	98,967	114,493	160,262	333	418	508	3,127	3,457	2,793
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	2,996	2,942	2,767	-	2,900	3,900	-	39,000	42,400
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	36.06	32.24	-	-	-	-	31.61	29.61

Note:—Figures for Canada re wage and salary workers are in thousands.  
X Figures subject to revision.

Item	New Glasgow & Pictou			Sydney			Saint John		
	July(X) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(X) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(X) 1947	June 1947	July 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	243	290	415	231	279	258	85	74	86
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	65	110	63	72	70	385	576	646	913
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	779	545	742	756	649	849	942	900	1,039
3. Total jobs available during month.....	844	655	805	828	719	1,234	1,518	1,546	1,952
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	706	514	658	707	609	758	562	557	678
5. % casual placements.....	4.8	6.8	6.8	14.9	22.5	10.4	14.4	12.6	7.4
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	82	65	112	92	72	410	81	576	788
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	1,799	2,370	2,576	4,352	5,434	4,019	1,936	1,875	2,261
% female.....	11.4	10.1	9.0	12.4	11.4	12.8	8.9	8.4	5.5
% veterans.....	39.5	35.6	56.1	33.1	35.0	57.6	56.5	50.6	55.7
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	33.6	34.1	46.5	30.3	31.3	50.5	43.4	37.9	45.3
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	7.7	-	6.9	11.8	-	10.0	13.6	-	8.7
% 20 - 44 ".....	67.2	-	73.4	59.6	-	78.5	64.2	-	63.4
% 45 - 64 ".....	16.6	-	12.4	13.3	-	7.4	17.2	-	14.4
% over 65 ".....	8.5	-	7.3	15.3	-	4.1	5.0	-	13.5
2. Applicants registered during month.....	884	961	1,211	1,101	1,766	1,517	1,712	1,410	1,608
3. Total workers available during month.....	2,683	3,331	3,787	5,453	7,200	5,536	3,648	3,285	3,869
% referred.....	41.6	26.2	19.9	19.8	17.7	15.4	32.0	26.3	26.5
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	1,506	1,799	2,525	3,600	4,352	4,285	2,240	1,936	2,329
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	6,200	7,600	-	15,600	19,700	-	26,200	25,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31.81	29.51

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	21	27	53	126	137	111	116	19	39
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	386	487	1,449	259	304	554	14,400	14,504	22,948
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	1,700	565	1,129	321	337	302	12,306	15,046	10,038
3. Total jobs available during month.....	2,086	1,052	2,578	580	641	856	26,706	29,550	32,986
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	434	263	278	160	102	161	5,703	5,829	2,979
5. % casual placements.....	-	0.4	0.4	3.8	5.9	-	9.2	13.2	4.2
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	777	386	1,054	343	259	164	13,841	14,400	19,371
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	257	329	1,143	1,302	1,433	1,059	10,441	12,539	20,644
% female.....	47.5	39.8	24.6	43.1	43.9	17.8	21.9	17.4	12.5
% veterans.....	5.8	6.7	8.9	13.7	20.5	42.8	14.0	17.9	20.5
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	3.1	3.3	7.2	11.9	19.5	37.2	7.5	11.0	12.4
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	22.5	-	8.4	16.5	-	8.8	12.9	-	6.8
% 20 - 44 "	63.0	-	71.3	63.8	-	70.3	46.5	-	59.3
% 45 - 64 "	8.0	-	14.0	13.5	-	10.7	24.0	-	19.3
% over 65 "	6.5	-	6.3	6.2	-	10.2	16.6	-	14.6
2. Applicants registered during month.....	293	384	787	587	406	755	10,063	11,175	14,800
3. Total workers available during month.....	550	713	1,930	1,889	1,839	1,814	20,504	23,514	35,444
% referred.....	49.6	48.5	16.1	19.1	11.9	14.6	51.1	48.6	28.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	199	257	922	1,194	1,302	1,293	8,586	10,441	16,099
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	9,600	7,000	-	9,500	10,400	-	49,700	471,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35.00	31.26

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	July(X) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(X) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(X) 1947	June 1947	July 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	74	101	146	48	60	75	10	10	16
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	1,845	1,116	1,687	27	49	29	364	338	432
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	2,544	2,667	2,192	262	182	48	591	577	745
3. Total jobs available during month.....	4,389	3,783	3,879	289	231	77	955	915	1,177
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	1,413	1,196	904	190	142	55	378	321	487
5. % casual placements.....	0.4	0.4	0.4	-	-	-	7.1	10.9	6.6
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	1,687	1,845	1,637	23	27	6	285	364	485
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	7,108	8,543	10,562	682	720	851	211	207	317
% female.....	34.3	30.4	37.0	51.5	43.6	33.8	32.7	23.7	22.7
% veterans.....	9.6	12.8	18.7	4.0	4.3	11.2	15.6	10.1	26.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	7.1	11.2	14.6	2.8	2.9	6.1	7.6	4.3	17.0
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	20.9	-	9.5	17.6	-	15.3	37.6	-	4.3
% 20 - 44 ".....	62.7	-	76.1	63.1	-	65.8	38.6	-	63.6
% 45 - 64 ".....	11.1	-	11.3	7.4	-	10.5	8.4	-	15.4
% over 65 ".....	5.3	-	3.1	11.9	-	8.4	15.4	-	16.7
2. Applicants registered during month.....	3,207	3,119	3,579	397	398	380	600	574	647
3. Total workers available during month.....	10,315	11,662	14,141	1,079	1,118	1,231	811	701	964
% referred.....	29.6	21.3	12.5	28.0	14.1	4.5	75.6	72.7	68.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	5,242	7,108	9,237	545	682	997	202	211	263
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	70,500	66,900	-	11,400	11,200	-	20,200	19,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	31.11	27.02	-	-	-	-	30.50	24.46

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Sorel			Three Rivers			Valleyfield		
	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	25	23	93	109	112	70	63	50	411
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	112	115	72	254	214	236	363	476	354
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	274	274	561	438	381	628	356	230	85
3. Total jobs available during month.....	386	389	633	692	595	864	719	706	439
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	143	189	74	180	173	241	198	190	71
5. % casual placements.....	-	-	-	0.5	1.7	-	-	-	-
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	131	112	89	256	254	180	228	363	329
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	239	324	970	4,139	3,844	2,585	328	465	2,714
% female.....	20.5	33.3	18.9	15.2	15.1	27.8	47.0	26.9	28.9
% veterans.....	6.3	4.3	8.2	10.2	12.2	15.5	8.8	7.5	6.9
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	4.2	2.5	7.2	8.6	10.6	10.0	6.7	6.7	6.4
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	14.1	-	7.1	26.5	-	12.0	22.5	-	18.3
% 20 - 44 "	58.5	-	64.8	55.8	-	72.3	52.8	-	59.9
% 45 - 64 "	18.3	-	17.8	13.2	-	11.9	17.3	-	17.8
% over 65 "	9.1	-	10.3	4.5	-	3.8	7.4	-	4.0
2. Applicants registered during month.....	311	331	409	600	750	1,525	465	305	627
3. Total workers available during month.....	550	655	1,379	4,739	4,594	4,110	793	770	3,341
% referred.....	36.4	37.7	8.1	11.0	10.1	9.7	36.4	27.7	3.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	263	239	754	4,038	4,139	2,759	417	328	2,914
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	10,400	7,600	-	37,100	35,200	-	6,600	2,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	35.87	30.54	-	-	-

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Brantford			Pt. William & Pt. Arthur			Hamilton		
	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	12	17	29	31	37	127	26	32	55
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	723	871	772	3,293	3,663	5,516	3,288	3,417	2,640
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	692	865	1,146	4,090	2,115	3,810	3,201	3,574	2,516
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,415	1,736	1,918	7,383	5,778	9,326	6,489	6,991	5,156
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	438	516	561	891	917	1,399	2,016	1,820	1,370
5. % casual placements.....	8.7	3.7	4.8	0.1	1.0	-	12.8	14.3	18.0
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	583	723	753	3,793	3,293	5,557	2,549	3,288	1,227
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	306	225	561	938	1,097	3,226	2,791	2,313	4,807
% female.....	50.7	23.6	42.8	45.8	40.7	37.5	28.0	23.3	27.8
% veterans.....	7.8	11.6	22.8	13.9	11.7	23.2	26.4	30.3	30.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	4.9	6.2	16.2	4.6	3.6	11.2	11.3	12.8	18.9
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	13.3	-	16.5	14.4	-	6.7	22.9	-	4.8
% 20 - 44 ".....	46.0	-	41.4	61.9	-	67.4	44.4	-	54.2
% 45 - 64 ".....	22.6	-	18.8	12.6	-	16.7	17.5	-	27.2
% over 65 ".....	18.1	-	23.3	11.1	-	9.2	15.2	-	13.8
2. Applicants registered during month.....	586	622	622	1,288	1,325	1,855	3,415	3,535	3,916
3. Total workers available during month..	892	847	1,183	2,226	2,422	5,081	6,206	5,848	8,723
% referred.....	52.5	64.2	43.4	47.6	44.8	27.8	64.1	66.8	38.6
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	226	306	382	780	938	2,132	2,317	2,791	4,934
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	18,200	16,100	-	25,500	23,100	-	87,700	83,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	38.39	35.03	-	37.08	32.36

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Kingston			Kitchener-Waterloo			London		
	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	42	41	39	3	5	6	22	23	28
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	244	211	321	1,286	1,798	1,043	1,636	2,640	1,816
2. Vacas. notified during month.....	577	629	1,087	1,055	1,146	1,261	1,730	1,981	2,731
3. Total jobs available during month.....	821	840	1,408	2,341	2,944	2,304	3,366	4,621	4,547
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	440	435	642	375	429	514	1,072	1,228	1,255
5. % casual placements.....	1.6	2.3	0.8	0.8	-	0.6	11.8	15.5	18.2
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	244	244	422	1,156	1,286	891	1,476	1,636	1,676
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	747	748	718	175	150	237	771	607	921
% female.....	23.4	22.6	23.0	8.6	6.7	16.9	33.9	33.3	20.3
% veterans.....	32.5	29.9	30.1	15.4	24.0	28.3	25.0	40.0	38.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	29.0	27.3	25.1	8.0	12.0	4.6	10.0	18.5	22.8
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	16.7	-	5.5	27.9	-	-	17.3	-	1.5
% 20 - 44 ".....	51.9	-	41.9	36.9	-	15.9	44.6	-	21.4
% 45 - 64 ".....	23.3	-	21.1	17.2	-	25.0	22.0	-	22.6
% over 65 ".....	8.1	-	31.5	18.0	-	59.1	16.1	-	54.5
2. Applicants registered during month.....	909	873	958	418	529	726	1,526	1,902	1,855
3. Total workers available during month.....	1,656	1,621	1,676	593	679	963	2,297	2,509	2,776
% referred.....	40.8	47.3	66.5	87.9	95.7	81.5	74.8	85.1	71.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	772	747	579	122	175	323	719	771	858
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	18,300	18,000	-	37,900	36,200	-	33,200	32,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	35.32	30.50	-	34.24	30.96

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	18	21	27	132	91	140	67	71	59
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	452	378	370	507	575	627	1,413	1,597	1,683
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	414	598	1,550	932	734	986	2,326	2,412	2,292
3. Total jobs available during month.....	866	976	1,920	1,439	1,309	1,613	3,739	4,009	3,975
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	263	271	506	642	448	541	991	940	1,116
5. % casual placements.....	2.7	0.4	0.4	1.6	6.7	1.1	14.8	18.7	-
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	313	452	1,217	421	507	546	1,482	1,413	1,429
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	374	334	480	1,685	1,697	2,594	4,343	4,827	3,639
% female.....	31.0	26.3	32.3	47.1	46.0	48.9	57.1	59.0	30.5
% veterans.....	15.2	15.6	28.8	55.8	19.1	20.1	18.8	18.1	39.7
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	7.0	9.6	18.8	7.1	14.1	15.0	15.4	14.4	33.4
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	39.2	-	3.6	11.9	-	8.8	10.7	-	4.8
% 20 - 44 "	38.9	-	42.3	66.2	-	70.1	59.3	-	60.4
% 45 - 64 "	5.8	-	33.7	17.4	-	12.6	23.6	-	22.5
% over 65 "	16.1	-	20.4	4.5	-	8.5	6.4	-	12.3
2. Applicants registered during month.....	415	501	705	2,001	1,007	1,001	2,604	2,598	2,855
3. Total workers available during month.....	789	835	1,185	3,686	2,704	3,595	6,947	7,425	6,494
% referred.....	55.6	52.1	59.1	26.0	30.2	27.4	28.6	28.7	38.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	329	374	489	2,450	1,685	2,297	4,105	4,343	3,486
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	18,000	17,100	-	18,500	17,000	-	61,400	59,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31.56	28.63

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Peterborough			St. Catharines			Sault Ste. Marie		
	July (X) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July (X) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July (X) 1947	June 1947	July 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (nc. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	9	12	30	22	20	51	17	20	26
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	327	348	431	504	602	565	896	885	1,492
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	332	630	734	928	1,239	1,743	1,446	638	592
3. Total jobs available during month.....	659	978	1,165	1,432	1,841	2,308	2,342	1,513	2,084
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	293	498	526	434	706	681	271	385	194
5. % casual placements.....	-	-	-	6.3	16.6	18.9	-	-	-
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	241	327	386	522	504	1,198	1,201	896	1,285
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	286	362	734	625	553	1,572	330	351	439
% female.....	10.8	7.2	6.3	31.8	42.7	48.4	81.9	81.2	60.1
% veterans.....	28.3	31.2	48.6	14.1	14.6	23.5	3.0	4.3	10.5
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	17.8	18.2	39.4	8.2	6.5	15.8	1.2	2.8	6.8
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	14.5	-	8.3	26.0	-	8.1	22.2	-	7.9
% 20 - 44 ".....	42.5	-	64.5	50.0	-	68.3	62.0	-	69.8
% 45 - 64 ".....	19.6	-	17.5	14.5	-	16.0	7.4	-	9.4
% over 65 ".....	23.4	-	9.7	9.5	-	7.6	8.4	-	12.9
2. Applicants registered during month.....	443	738	698	1,013	1,079	1,342	401	434	659
3. Total workers available during month.....	729	1,100	1,432	1,638	1,632	2,914	731	785	1,098
% referred.....	71.3	78.4	55.2	48.5	64.1	35.3	48.2	47.8	21.5
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	214	286	489	670	625	1,548	284	330	797
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	24,500	22,800	-	30,600	28,600	-	16,900	15,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Sudbury			Toronto			Welland		
	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	27	22	46	15	19	27	34	32	104
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	1,183	1,654	2,393	19,631	25,544	19,517	448	719	576
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	1,737	2,129	1,579	17,825	19,533	22,750	474	634	791
3. Total jobs available during month.....	2,920	3,783	3,972	37,456	45,377	42,267	922	1,353	1,367
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	970	913	911	7,612	7,738	9,505	243	306	554
5. % casual placements.....	8.0	7.2	4.7	12.7	13.6	9.1	0.8	0.3	-
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	1,414	1,183	2,207	14,781	19,631	14,985	380	448	352
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	713	768	1,494	8,444	5,688	11,553	333	249	1,466
% female.....	49.5	30.7	33.9	23.9	14.8	9.7	52.3	57.4	53.4
% veterans.....	12.5	9.9	19.7	18.0	34.2	46.4	6.6	6.8	13.7
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	2.4	5.7	14.5	10.6	18.0	31.6	1.8	1.6	6.4
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	45.7	-	8.4	27.1	-	2.2	43.5	-	7.5
% 20 - 44 "	36.4	-	70.7	39.1	-	40.9	36.7	-	67.2
% 45 - 64 "	10.5	-	13.6	18.3	-	34.0	11.0	-	17.5
% over 65 "	7.4	-	7.3	15.5	-	22.9	8.8	-	7.8
2. Applicants registered during month.....	1,148	1,276	1,381	12,928	13,922	14,360	480	574	870
3. Total workers available during month...	1,861	2,044	2,875	21,372	19,610	25,913	813	823	2,336
% referred.....	54.9	51.6	44.4	56.3	64.1	56.0	59.2	71.0	34.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	857	713	1,159	6,534	8,444	10,436	354	333	1,251
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	32,200	26,300	-	42,900	37,400	-	10,400	9,400
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	36.68	32.86	-	-	-

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	56	56	97	45	53	76	19	28	39
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	267	486	571	3,479	3,308	4,240	797	986	858
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	1,290	1,487	1,546	6,530	6,592	7,076	1,989	1,820	2,018
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,557	1,973	2,117	10,009	9,900	11,316	2,786	2,806	2,876
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	931	1,103	1,169	4,331	4,207	4,079	1,495	1,218	1,369
5. % casual placements.....	21.9	23.8	15.7	31.1	37.4	33.9	40.4	36.2	35.1
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	286	267	318	3,250	3,479	3,902	722	797	939
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	3,168	3,293	5,498	7,519	8,687	10,841	934	769	1,287
% female.....	53.9	50.7	33.5	35.4	32.0	23.2	32.4	28.2	32.9
% veterans.....	16.9	16.6	26.4	21.4	23.8	41.1	17.7	20.9	24.6
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	9.2	11.0	19.4	13.6	15.2	32.5	16.1	18.3	23.2
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	17.3	-	9.5	24.6	-	4.9	32.6	-	4.3
% 20 - 44 ".....	63.9	-	72.5	50.5	-	64.8	43.5	-	58.5
% 45 - 64 ".....	13.5	-	14.5	14.5	-	17.2	13.9	-	21.2
% over 65 ".....	5.3	-	3.5	10.4	-	13.1	10.0	-	16.0
2. Applicants registered during month.....	2,347	2,486	5,474	8,007	8,180	9,025	1,916	2,159	2,490
3. Total workers available during month...	5,515	5,779	10,972	15,526	16,867	19,866	2,850	2,928	3,777
% referred.....	29.7	30.2	15.2	40.4	39.7	34.5	81.5	71.7	58.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	3,162	3,168	7,947	6,270	7,519	10,168	619	934	1,303
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	56,600	50,100	-	139,000	135,700	-	32,800	29,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	42.85	37.46	-	33.30	30.50	-	31.41	29.21

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(x) 1947	June 1947	July 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	27	37	42	34	41	62	25	31	47
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	831	644	908	1,018	1,258	1,343	1,407	1,457	1,768
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	1,467	1,207	1,546	3,359	2,885	3,250	3,450	3,354	4,202
3. Total jobs available during month.....	2,298	1,851	2,454	4,377	4,143	4,593	4,875	4,811	5,970
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	883	526	664	2,490	1,950	2,378	2,473	2,386	2,418
5. % casual placements.....	26.0	21.5	29.5	39.2	15.9	29.4	19.0	17.1	27.9
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	599	831	916	975	1,018	1,141	1,270	1,407	1,854
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	1,643	1,443	1,857	2,068	2,374	3,086	2,263	2,389	3,400
% female.....	40.7	38.8	25.4	30.6	29.9	17.7	23.7	22.2	18.1
% veterans.....	20.8	29.2	39.9	29.8	30.1	43.9	22.8	27.5	46.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	10.7	19.3	22.6	17.7	19.5	32.9	8.0	16.5	20.4
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	24.8	-	4.3	18.8	-	5.7	25.6	-	4.2
% 20 - 44 ".....	52.8	-	64.7	49.8	-	54.0	47.1	-	67.3
% 45 - 64 ".....	15.4	-	20.5	20.3	-	25.4	17.9	-	17.8
% over 65 ".....	7.0	-	10.5	11.1	-	14.9	9.4	-	10.7
2. Applicants registered during month.....	1,626	1,714	1,639	3,319	3,063	3,538	4,264	4,437	4,568
3. Total workers available during month.....	3,269	3,157	3,496	5,387	5,437	6,624	6,527	6,826	7,968
% referred.....	44.4	40.2	36.9	63.2	53.9	49.7	57.8	63.0	46.8
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	1,189	1,643	1,592	1,720	2,068	2,565	1,824	2,263	2,855
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	44,400	43,600	-	50,100	47,900	-	72,200	70,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	32.06	28.10	-	34.33	32.02	-	32.87	30.52

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Trail			Vancouver			Victoria		
	July(X) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(X) 1947	June 1947	July 1946	July(X) 1947	June 1947	July 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	19	26	46	49	52	100	37	39	55
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	191	87	130	3,740	4,857	5,429	615	693	867
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	439	314	492	11,637	9,198	11,198	1,130	1,253	2,179
3. Total jobs available during month.....	630	401	622	15,377	14,055	16,627	1,745	1,946	3,048
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	336	206	346	5,634	4,746	5,037	697	764	1,211
5. % casual placements.....	-	-	-	13.6	16.4	19.9	22.1	8.1	8.8
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	249	191	258	4,692	3,740	5,250	621	615	1,089
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	241	213	432	11,106	12,520	20,720	1,832	1,632	2,592
% female.....	49.0	53.5	54.2	25.9	25.8	15.6	18.4	18.0	17.9
% veterans.....	15.4	10.3	15.7	31.4	29.0	36.9	32.6	39.4	38.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	5.8	7.0	7.9	19.2	20.5	25.4	23.3	24.3	21.9
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	16.1	-	0.9	12.9	-	3.0	22.4	-	2.4
% 20 - 44 ".....	64.9	-	58.6	50.3	-	52.0	36.2	-	32.8
% 45 - 64 ".....	14.9	-	12.7	25.1	-	31.7	25.1	-	20.1
% over 65 ".....	4.1	-	27.8	11.7	-	13.3	16.3	-	44.7
2. Applicants registered during month.....	347	324	428	12,276	11,810	13,090	1,325	1,658	1,606
3. Total workers available during month.....	588	537	860	23,382	24,330	33,810	3,157	3,290	4,198
% referred.....	49.7	50.5	47.0	36.9	34.5	23.3	35.4	39.2	31.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	178	241	348	10,576	11,106	18,305	1,725	1,832	2,050
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	9,400	8,900	-	205,000	178,500	-	47,200	44,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " " "	-	-	-	-	36.27	33.16	-	36.33	32.45

X Figures subject to revision.



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A N A D I A N

# LABOUR MARKET

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR  
RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH

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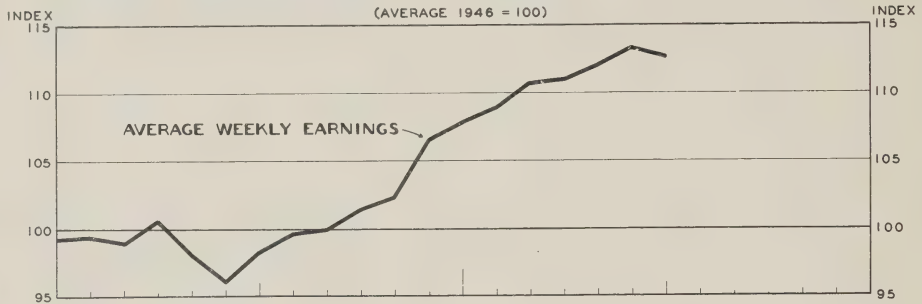
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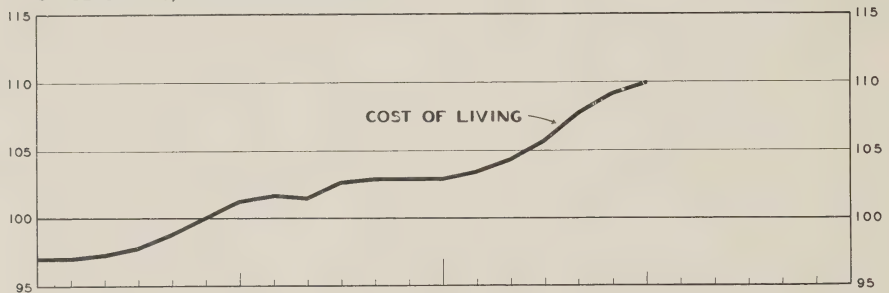
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# REAL WEEKLY EARNINGS....

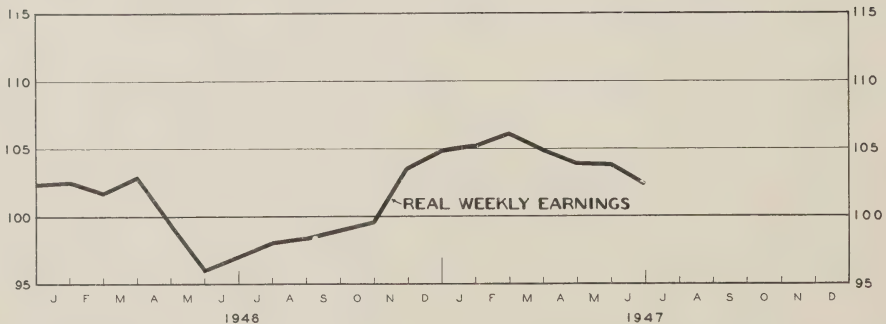
ALTHOUGH AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF WAGE EARNERS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES ARE RUNNING ABOUT 13 PER CENT ABOVE THE AVERAGE 1946 LEVEL....



THE COST OF LIVING HAS RISEN EVEN MORE SHARPLY SINCE SPRING, WITH THE RESULT THAT....



REAL WEEKLY EARNINGS HAVE DECLINED STEADILY FOR THE PAST FOUR MONTHS....





# THE LABOUR MARKET IN BRIEF....

High levels of employment and income continue to feature the Canadian labour market. Total civilian employment which has now attained a level of almost five millions has expanded by over one-quarter of a million since February of this year. Unemployment—currently under 90,000—forms less than 2 per cent of the labour force. In addition, the income of Canadian workers has been considerably enhanced as compared with 1946. Total labour income in Canada amounted to about \$2.8 billions for the first 6 months of this year. This is 17 per cent above the 1946 level for the same period. This rise will be supplemented during the latter six months of 1947 by the drop in personal income taxes which became effective from July 1.

However, for those on whose shoulders rests the responsibility for the decisions which will materially determine economic conditions for the next year, the above facts are well known. More pertinent, is the fact that our present prosperity is being seriously threatened by several developments.

The more important of these concerns the world financial crisis and the Canadian shortage of American dollars. The relationship of these developments to employment in Canada was pointed out in the last issue of this report. By the end of September, France and Australia had imposed direct import restrictions on some goods bought from this country. It is felt, however, that the effect of these restrictions will not be serious since there are other markets to which the goods concerned can be allocated.

In Canada, prices continue to rise. At August 1, 1947, the cost of living was 9 per cent above that of one year ago. Sharp rises very likely occurred during August and September. These increases are bound to have some effect on the course of labour relations next year, particularly if no decline in prices seems imminent at that time. If the United States extends further credits to European countries, it may be that she will look to Canada as a source of supply for some of the goods which these countries will consequently be wanting to buy. This additional demand for Canadian goods, along with poorer crops in Canada this year, may postpone any general price decline for some time.

Meanwhile, business executives in Canada although becoming apprehensive over the foreign outlook do not foresee any basic drop in employment by the end of this year, or even by April 1, 1948.

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## THE EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

Business executives do not contemplate any immediate recession, according to the latest forecast survey of the larger firms in key Canadian industries. The normal seasonal decline will occur late in 1947, but basically employment will continue at high levels. At January 1, 1948, in manufacturing industries, employment will likely be about 4 per cent higher than one year before; in logging, 14 per cent; in metal mining, 10 per cent; in trade, 2 per cent.

One human factor must be taken into account, however, in order to evaluate these forecasts properly. It is only natural that each executive, although perhaps anticipating certain difficulties ahead, should think, "Why yes, some future conditions may look a bit ominous, but I feel that our firm will weather any storms". Personal optimism is a normal characteristic of business executives, and this natural confidence will be reflected in the individual forecasts and so in the overall industry forecast. A qualitative analysis of the outlook for each industry, however, will help to counterbalance this tendency.

Supporting influences in the economy today are the sustained and heavy consumer demand, the high volume of savings, and record-breaking exports. In the United States there has been a switch from widespread expectation of a depression in the Fall of 1947 to concern about the continued strength of inflationary forces. American forecasters consider some sort of shakedown inevitable, but do not expect it at least until the first half of 1948.

The present picture in itself is indeed optimistic. But the international financial crisis is rapidly becoming more and more of a threat to our prosperity. It is The Big Uncertainty in the economic outlook.

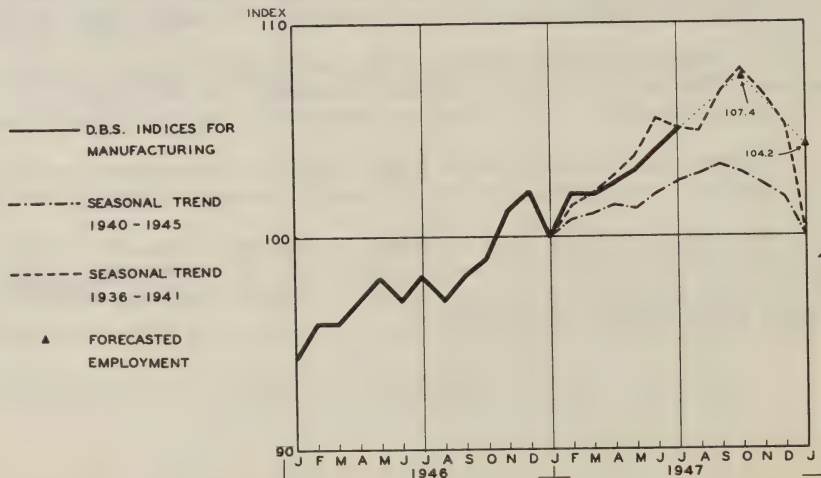
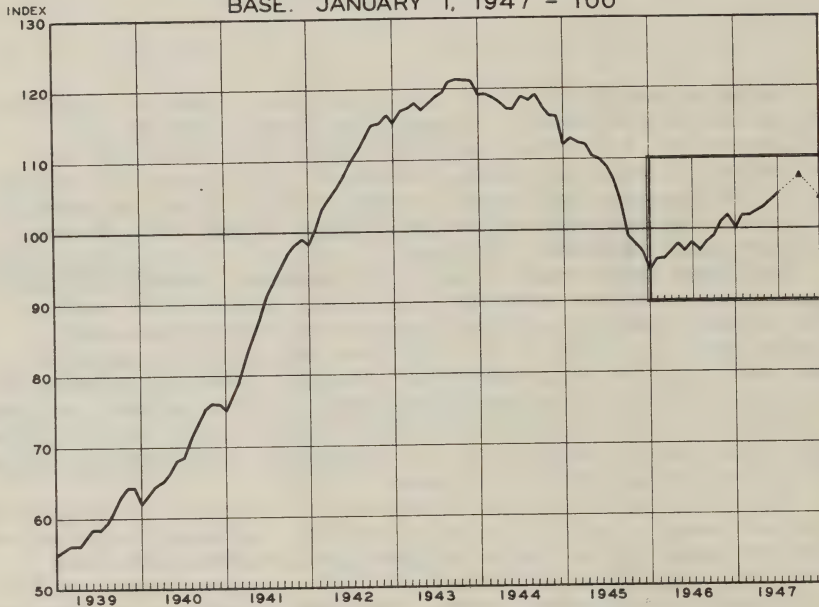
Another uncertainty, and a potent one, is the possibility of a further round of wage negotiations to overcome the sharply rising cost of living.

With these factors well in mind, we now can approach the forecasts of executives realistically—they represent the intentions of key firms during the period from July 1, 1947, to January 1, 1948, barring any drastic interruptions to production.



# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS OF MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES 1939 - 1948 ACTUAL AND FORECASTED

BASE. JANUARY 1, 1947 = 100



The following table indicates the actual trend of employment in Manufacturing Industries during 1947, as provided by the Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. and the forecasted levels of employment as provided by the Employment Forecast Division of the Research and Statistics Branch, the forecasts being short-term forecasts of four and seven months, issued quarterly.

Table I—Manufacturing Industries

Date	(I) Employment D.B.S.	(II) Forecast from Dec.1, 1946	(III) Forecast from Mar.1, 1947	(IV) Forecast from June 1, 1947
Dec. 1, 1946 .....	1,020,728			
Jan. 1, 1947 .....	1,002,340			
Feb. 1 " .....	1,020,240			
Mar. 1 " .....	1,023,716			
Apr. 1 " .....	1,026,923	1,025,500		
May 1 " .....	1,030,024			
June 1 " .....	1,039,190			
July 1 " .....	1,054,283	1,056,500	1,055,500	
Aug. 1 " .....				
Sept. 1 " .....				
Oct. 1 " .....			1,078,000	1,076,500
Nov. 1 " .....				
Dec. 1 " .....				
Jan. 1, 1948 .....				1,044,500

### Manufacturing Employment Continues Upward Cyclical Trends

The forecasted decline from October to January — 3 per cent — is considerably less than the average seasonal decline for 1936 - 1941, but equals the average for the war years 1940 - 1945. If the forecasted figure for January 1948 is reached, employment in 1948 will start on a plateau some 47,000 higher than it did in 1947 and 100,000 higher than it did in 1946.

The "tight" labour market situation may limit this projected expansion somewhat, but with the improvement in the supply of materials there is every indication that new peacetime levels of employment will be reached within the forecast period.

In consumer non-durable industries — food, clothing, printing and publishing, etc.—the cyclical trend of employment continues upwards but shows signs of levelling off. Consumer durables—furniture, electrical goods, automobiles—are producing for an unabated demand and employment continues its upward cyclical trend; furniture manufacturing is the strongest boosting factor. Producers goods industries—machinery, farm implements, building materials, etc.—are also expanding cyclically, stimulated

particularly in the machinery group (new contracts for railway rolling stock) and in farm implement production.

Individual manufacturing industries, however, will follow diverse trends in the next few months, depending on various factors such as their market outlook, supply situation and seasonal sensitivity.

In food industries, no further marked gains are indicated other than the normal seasonal upswing in the Autumn. In 1947, the industry showed an average employment gain of 5 per cent over 1946, but several factors will hold back further basic expansion. European demand for food remains acute, and the high national income will sustain domestic requirements, but the difficulties in international financing as well as rising food prices may be stumbling blocks.

The meatpacking industry is in the throes of a Dominion-wide tie-up at present, over the negotiation of a wage increase. Apart from this, employment in any case was limited in expansion by livestock deliveries which were below the normal seasonal level. Furthermore, this year's poor grain crop will affect the 1948 supply situation adversely, since it will curtail the feed available for livestock.

On the question of markets, one firm reported that the lack of funds in importing countries was limiting its export trade. Another, however, commented, "The bulk of our exports are for Great Britain. Previously, large shipments were made for UNRRA. Much more could be shipped to Great Britain if allowed, for they certainly need more. If permitted to,<sup>(1)</sup> we could ship enormous quantities to Continental Europe, South Africa and South America..... now is the time to get in when markets can be developed without costing anything for advertising and selling. Once in, the markets would likely be held".

The fish industry on the Atlantic Coast is definitely adjusting its production and processing program to meet current market requirements. The industry enjoyed strong markets for all its production throughout the war years, but as the fisheries of the United Kingdom and Northwestern European countries recovered, the European demand declined except for certain relief requirements.

Competition from Newfoundland and Iceland also weakened our market for frozen fish products in the United States. One major firm reports in pessimistic terms regarding the immediate future of the fresh and salt fish industry on the Atlantic Coast, but another states that its operations are at capacity with no decline in demand.

In the milling industries--flour and feed--employment is expected to remain stable except for minor seasonal changes. The labour supply is adequate and labour relations are satisfactory. The supply of wheat and other grains is sufficient to keep the mills operating at capacity for the balance of the year though adverse weather conditions have severely damaged crops in eastern Canada and some in western Canada. This will affect mill operations in 1948. Also, since this is an export industry--50 per cent of production is currently exported--the present dollar crisis in Europe could check the present level of output.

In the textile industry, expansion should continue. Forecasted employment for January 1948, will stand at 64,000 as against 60,000 in the previous January. The acute shortage of labour is the outstanding bottleneck in textile production, and employment estimates take this into

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<sup>(1)</sup>Export restrictions are in force in order to meet our commitments to the U.K.



consideration—actual capacity for expansion is much greater than the forecast would indicate. For example, the labour requirements of one company are almost double the number of employees already on the payroll. The housing shortage in most textile areas aggravates the situation.

Most executives report little, if any, slackening in the volume of orders received, and in most cases, the orders on hand could sustain six months' capacity production, as limited by the supply of labour. If domestic demand should decline, one company stated, it could easily maintain present production by increasing exports. This again, however, would be subject to financial and exchange difficulties with purchasers in the sterling block.

In the pulp and paper industry a spirit of optimism prevails and most employers are convinced that the present high level of activity will be extended well into 1948, at least. Employment will decline seasonally this Fall to a level at January 1948 some 1,500 above the January 1947 figure. Labour supply, except for bushmen, is adequate to meet the demand in this industry; industrial relations are amicable.

Labour turnover is a great problem, however. One firm had to hire 12,000 woodsmen during the last season in order to maintain a working force of 2,000. The log supply is insufficient in certain areas, as a result of the bad spring weather.

Many mills are operating at 101 to 105 per cent of original rated capacity. The speed-up is due to technical improvements in original equipment and modernization of existing plants, even though most companies are six to eighteen months behind in their improvement programs because of delays in the delivery of heavy machinery.

The general opinion was that the British cut-back in orders would not affect the industry particularly since the production formerly allocated to Britain will be taken eagerly by American and Canadian purchasers.

In the furniture and electrical goods industries an 8 per cent employment increase was forecast for January 1948 over January 1947. The trend of employment has been steadily upward since October 1946, following the end of work stoppages in the electrical goods division.

Some firms complained of material shortages. Wooden radio cabinets, copper wire, porcelain, are among the chief scarcities.

On the score of productivity, one firm explained a forecasted decline in its employment as a result of a marked increase in the efficiency of its workers, less absenteeism, and less labour turnover—while another complained, however, that there was no real efficiency in its labour force.

In the automobile industry employment has been steadily increasing since the beginning of 1947 as supplies expanded. Forecasted employment for January 1948 will be 15 per cent above the January 1947 level. All signs point towards a continued high level of production and of employment in the industry for the latter part of 1947 and beginning of 1948.

Consumer demand for motor vehicles remains unsatisfied as evidenced by the extraordinarily high prices paid for used cars. Buyers' resistance, now evident in many lines of non-durable consumer goods as well as in certain lines of durable goods, has not yet made its appearance in the automobile market.

The industry needs workers desperately. One firm was even contemplating the return of female wartime employees. Another complained that labour supply in relation to its present requirements was the **worst** in its history. Labour turnover also is a problem. The shortage of raw materials continues - but as one executive commented to a survey interviewer, "We are always short of something, but 1947 looks as if it will be the largest year we ever had, so we must not be too badly off for supplies. At the previous interview we stated that the Company's plants were loaded with implements and vehicles waiting for one or two small parts for completion. The same condition applies today but to different products than when you were last here".

The only possible checks to the continued prosperity of this industry at present are the recent increases in coal and steel prices, which might lead to an extension of buyers' resistance from other products to motor vehicles.

In the rubber industry the level of employment is about 6 per cent higher than in 1946. However there are signs that stability will soon be reached. Domestic demand for passenger tires seems to be satisfied, and firms now are looking to export business in order to absorb their expanded output. This industry was greatly expanded by special war demands. Post-war operations had remained at a high level as a result of pent-up civilian demand for tires and other rubber products. But current indications are that this is almost satisfied - one official commented, "I expect we will be over the hump by next January. Tire companies in the United States have reached that point already and price cuts are becoming numerous. I don't believe that exports will increase sufficiently to pick up the slack. If our production schedules are reduced, we will likely reduce hours worked, rather than slash employment".

In the machinery industry employment is gradually moving upwards and by the end of the year will show a 2 per cent gain for 1947, according to forecasts. It is difficult to generalize about future trends in view of the wide variety of products turned out by this industry. On the whole, however, it can be said that the industry is working at capacity and, with one or two exceptions, expects to continue at top production certainly to the beginning of 1948.

Shortages still limit machinery production. Sheet steel, pig iron, plates and shapes are the major scarcities. Skilled labour is also a problem. One executive stated, "We are unable to secure men of the quality we would like, so the ones we do get require a longer period of training..... However, results are now showing and it won't be long before we are back to pre-war standards of efficiency".

In the integrated steel industry employment is expected to remain on a relatively stable level for the balance of the year. Although the steel supply situation has greatly improved since the 1946 strikes, shortages, particularly of scrap, are still reported. Most employers are optimistic about the immediate future of the industry.

In the agricultural implements industry, expansion during 1947 will find employment some 16 per cent higher at the end of the year than at the beginning. Both material and labour shortages are reported by numerous firms. Several employers expressed anxiety concerning the 1947 grain crop, since poor yields in certain Prairie areas and outright crop failures in many sections of eastern Canada will probably affect agricultural expenditures in 1948.

In the building materials industry employment will decline seasonally during the autumn to a level at January 1948 about 5 per cent above that of the previous January. One executive commented on the productive capacity of the building industry as follows: "The production capacity of the Canadian building materials industry has more than quadrupled during the war and at present capacity, production cannot be expected to continue. Our Company is only one of nine large firms in Canada. One of our plants at capacity production could produce enough roofing for 80,000 homes a year. The point is that the productive capacity of all plants in Canada is more than the Canadian market can absorb on a long term basis, and as our products are bulky in comparison to their value, freight charges preclude competition in foreign markets".

In the sawmill industry a seasonal decline during the Fall will bring employment to a level at January 1948, 6 per cent above the January 1947 figure. The general outlook points to production increases for 1947 estimated at 10 to 15 per cent above 1946.

The United Kingdom market is holding firm in spite of the dollar shortage; recently concluded contracts by firms in British Columbia run until June 1948, while Maritime lumbermen expect to renew present contracts on the same basis as this year. The re-imposition of U.S. tariffs on lumber imports is only negligible—a matter of a dollar or two per thousand; this market for good lumber continues and at current price levels. Building activity in Canada creates a great domestic demand for lumber.

In the shipbuilding industry any employment declines will be seasonal. Contracts for new ship construction and repairs are sufficient to keep this industry operating at its present level until the freeze-up. The labour supply appears generally adequate although the shortage of welders is still evident. A major problem is the scarcity of steel and other important component parts, which in some cases is holding up employment expansion.

#### Primary Industries Show Marked Gains in Employment During 1947

The situation in the labour-starved primary industries improved considerably after the war, when manpower was again available. The problem common to all such industries today, however, is still how to attract and maintain enough workers. Skilled men, especially, are in very short supply, and the fact that activity is far removed from urban areas discourages many applicants and also creates a severe housing problem.

In the logging industry, employment forecasts are divided into two sections because of regional differences in the type and seasonal



pattern of logging operations--pulpwood logging, Manitoba and eastward; B.C. logging, both pulpwood and lumber.

Employment in pulpwood logging in Manitoba and eastern Canada has averaged this year about 25 per cent above the comparable period in 1946. Floods prolonged the spring drive about a month, while unusually great cutting activity was carried on during the summer.

The forecast for January 1948 indicates an increase of 14 per cent over the previous January. The seasonal increase in employment during this Fall will be, on a percentage basis, of approximately equal amplitude to that of 1945 and 1946. The only obstacle to the realization of these forecasts will be the supply of labour. Even during the slack summer season this year, labour demand was estimated at 13,000; labour turnover is high. Immigration will provide about 3,000 workers.

In British Columbia, logging is generally carried on throughout the year--seasonality is therefore much less extreme than in eastern Canada. Peak activity comes in the Fall after which winter weather conditions force a partial curtailment of operations. Forecasted employment for January 1948 is 22 per cent above the level one year before. The only factor limiting employment is the shortage of workers, particularly skilled ones; markets for forest products present no problem at all in view of the world-wide demand for lumber and newsprint.

Coal mining employment is expected to remain at a high level for the remainder of the year. For January, forecasted employment is estimated at 25,500, some 4 per cent higher than in January 1947, (although 4 per cent lower than January, 1946). A tight labour supply of skilled men exists in all coal areas. In the Maritime coal fields, working conditions are not so satisfactory as in other regions and the prolonged strike in 1947 drove many miners into other jobs in Ontario and Quebec.

A severe scarcity of other fuels, plus the expanding industrial need for coal, will sustain production and employment levels.

Metal mining employment will increase only slightly during the rest of the year but should show a total gain during 1947 of about 12 per cent.

The gold mining industry is in a partially depressed state due chiefly to increasing costs, the fixed price for gold, and the shortage of suitable labour. With regard to the labour situation, one official stated, "I don't know what we are going to do for men. The second generation doesn't want to work in the gold mines. Prior to the war, mine wages were above the average and this partially compensated for the hardships of mining..... Now industrial wages have reached, and in many cases surpassed, mine wages. Steady employment, 300 days annually, does not seem to attract people. Under present conditions, we can't pay more. Base metals can and are paying more because they secured increases for their products, on the other hand, the gold price is fixed and even reduced 10 per cent". In general the gold mining industry feels that only an increase in price or a reduction in costs through changes in tax depreciation and depletion policies can increase employment.

Employment in base metal mines has not risen any more rapidly than in gold mines, despite the benefit of better price arrangements during 1947. The labour force in metal mining is almost equally divided between the two sections. As in gold mining, the difficulty of securing and keeping an adequate work force has hampered operations. Labour turnover is very high and present hiring represents replacement rather than expansion of employment. The industry favours immigration strongly.

#### Retail Trade Will Follow Normal Seasonal Pattern at Present Level

Retail trade will show marked employment expansion in the next few months, reflecting the usual seasonal upswing in consumer buying, but these gains will be more moderate than those of the same period in 1946. Forecasted employment at the end of the year will be almost 2 per cent higher than at the beginning. The supply of labour is not expected to limit department store employment seriously any longer, although many firms stress that they are not completely satisfied with the quality and attitude of some employees.

The pattern which is developing in department store sales is the one expected this year--emphasis on durable rather than non-durable goods, with persistent shortages of some "heavy" goods. After allowance for price changes, sales in the first half of 1947 were about equal in volume to those of the same period last year.

#### Electric Power Expansion Continues

The electric power industry is expected to expand further. Employment will decline seasonally during the Fall but the forecast for January indicates a 3 per cent gain over the previous January. Several large-scale power projects now are either under construction or being considered. The Dominion Government recently approved a measure which will enable Beauharnois Light, Heat and Power of Quebec, to boost productive capacity from 600,000 to 1,750,000 horsepower. Work has already begun on projects in British Columbia, Ontario and Alberta, which in 1948 will support greater employment in the industry.

Table II—Employment Forecasts  
(Source: Employment Forecast Survey, Third Report 1947)  
January 1, 1947 = 100

Selected Industries	Recorded Employment		Forecasts	
	Jan. 1, 1947 (Actual)	June 1, 1947 (Index)	Oct. 1, 1947 (Index)	Jan. 1, 1948 (Index)
<u>Manufacturing:</u> .....	1,002,340	103.7	107.4	104.2
Food.....	100,007	97.7	120.4	100.0
Beverages.....	16,980	101.3	105.4	101.6
Flour & feed milling.....	6,547	100.2	102.1	100.0
Textiles.....	60,399	102.7	105.1	106.2
Pulp and paper.....	44,901	109.3	110.9	103.3
Containers.....	28,619	102.7	105.3	102.8
Furniture & electrical goods..	80,946	104.5	107.6	108.3
Vehicles.....	40,189	114.3	116.9	115.3
Rubber.....	23,951	104.1	106.1	105.8
Machinery building.....	90,550	100.0	102.3	102.5
Integrated steel.....	55,606	101.3	102.3	101.8
Agricultural machinery.....	18,544	112.3	115.7	116.1
Chemicals.....	14,421	105.4	104.3	104.3
Non-ferrous metal products....	44,707	104.8	107.1	107.6
Construction materials.....	55,530	107.0	107.8	105.5
Petroleum products.....	9,103	105.8	106.0	104.0
Sawmills.....	40,026	112.4	114.6	106.2
Aircraft.....	12,631	87.3	88.3	85.1
Shipbuilding.....	22,693	110.7	112.8	101.8
<u>Primary Industries:</u>				
<u>Logging</u>				
Manitoba and East.....	52,464	47.9	86.6	113.8
British Columbia.....	11,979	134.5	139.4	121.0
<u>Coal Mining</u>				
Nova Scotia.....	12,280	81.2	110.3	106.3
Alberta & British Columbia..	11,114	90.0	93.5	102.4
<u>Metal Mining</u> .....	35,162	111.4	112.7	112.8
<u>Non-Metallic Mining</u> .....	12,712	113.4	111.8	106.7
<u>Communications</u>				
Telephones.....	33,557	108.4	108.8	109.0
<u>Retail Trade</u>				
Department & Mail Order				
Houses.....	59,618	87.9	92.5	101.5
<u>Electric Power</u> .....	23,792	106.5	108.6	103.1



# EFFECTS OF THE WAR ON CANADA'S LABOUR FORCE

The war made a twofold demand upon Canadian manpower resources. Men and women were required both for the armed forces and for war production. The forces, at their peak strength in 1944, removed nearly 800,000 persons (including over 30,000 women) from the Canadian labour market. Nevertheless, production, not only of war materials but also of many commodities for the use of the civilian population, had expanded enormously since 1939.

The labour which made this expanded production possible came from three sources:

- (1) A redistribution of manpower between industries, enabling employment in manufacturing firms especially to increase at the expense (relatively) of that in other occupations, and involving a large movement of workers from the farm to the city.
- (2) The absorption of practically all of the surplus of unemployed labour with which the economy was burdened in 1939.
- (3) The drawing into the labour force of large numbers of workers from classes not formerly gainfully employed, especially women.

It must be remembered also that the total Canadian population increased by over 800,000 during the war.

The redistribution of labour between different industries, between different provinces, and between urban and rural areas, constituted in part temporary distortions of normal development. But probably in the main these wartime trends were merely a speeding-up of long-run tendencies, and have not been reversed by the return of peace.

## Redistribution of the Labour Force Between Industries

The increased importance of manufacturing in the Canadian economy, as a result of the war, is shown in Tables I, and II. While the Census of 1941 showed employment in manufacturing as only 23.11 per cent of total Canadian employment, compared with 25.79 per cent for agriculture, the estimates of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show employment in manufacturing, at May 31, 1947, as 27.5 per cent of the total.

This increase in the importance of manufacturing is shown more strikingly in Table I. While the employment index for manufacturing doubled between 1939 and 1943, the indices of the other leading industries increased by much smaller percentages, and employment in mining actually declined. (The decline was in metal mining, while employment in coal mining remained stable).

Since 1943, manufacturing employment has lost ground relatively to other industries, but still retains most of its wartime gain.

Employment indices of several of the principal war industries are shown in Table II. Apart from the remarkable expansion between 1939 and 1943, the most striking thing about these indices is the fact that, except for shipbuilding, the aircraft and chemical industries, and non-ferrous metal products, the industries shown have now surpassed their wartime peak, or have fallen only a little below it. Employment in shipbuilding, while only one-third of peak wartime employment, is much larger than before the war, but there is obviously doubt whether this will permanently remain a major Canadian industry.

However, the figures presented seem to show that the wartime shift to manufacturing was not a temporary expedient, but the acceleration of a long-run trend in the Canadian economy. It has been estimated that, of the investment in new plants, public and private, in the course of the war, over 70 per cent was convertible to peacetime use.<sup>(1)</sup> Many products not formerly manufactured in Canada began to be produced during the war, such as machine tools, plastics, buses, polymer flake and titanium dioxide. For some war-expanded durable-goods industries, in which low costs depend on mass-production, the question arises whether, after the present hectic post-war demand has subsided, the domestic market will be sufficient to maintain the industry on a sound basis, and, if not, whether adequate export markets will be obtainable in the face of America's low costs and the export drive of Great Britain and western Europe.

#### Redistribution of the Labour Force between Provinces

Migration of population between provinces, between 1931 and 1946, is summarized in Table III, taken from the report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, "Count of Ration Book No. 6 as of September, 1946".

It is obvious that population movements between provinces during the war were in the same directions as the movements of the preceding decade. British Columbia and Ontario were the outstanding gainers. The Prairie provinces were the outstanding losers. The small movement into Nova Scotia was exceeded by the movement out of the other Maritime provinces. Quebec, due to her high natural increase, supplied some labour to Ontario, as well as expanding her own industrial population.

Movements between 1944 and 1946 show the same trends, except that Nova Scotia, instead of New Brunswick, is losing population. The net emigration from Canada, which was appreciable in the depression decade, seems to have been replaced by net immigration, but on this point a great deal depends upon government policy regarding the admission of immigrants.

Interprovincial migration is largely a result of the underlying migration from primary industry to manufacturing, and from the farm to the city, which will be discussed next.

#### Rural - Urban Migration

Migration between rural, urban, and metropolitan counties, from 1911 to 1946, is shown in Table IV. Movements between 1941 and 1944 evidently reproduced in more intense form those of the preceding decade. Farm counties during 1941-44 lost 284,000 people; and most of the gain went to the metropolitan counties, that is, to the bigger rather than the smaller cities.

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(1) "Location and Effects of Wartime Industrial Expansion in Canada", Department of Reconstruction.



Between 1944 and 1946, no important net movement took place toward either farms or cities. There was, of course, some drift back to the farms by those who had been discharged from war work, and by servicemen returning from overseas, but this did not indicate a reversal of the long-run trend from farm to city which had been intensified by the war.

However, one cannot conclude that the exodus from the farm, and emigration from the prairie provinces, will in future be as heavy as in the war period or in the preceding depression decade. A prolonged world-wide scarcity of food, resulting in persistently high prices for agricultural products, would greatly reduce the movement from the farms, especially from the wheat belt. On the other hand, the tendency toward continued mechanization in agriculture, and the lack of large areas of fertile and unoccupied land, make it improbable that this movement could be completely reversed.

### Absorption of the Unemployed

It is difficult to define an "unemployed" person, or to estimate the total number unemployed in Canada in 1939. A considerable decrease in unemployment in the course of the war is shown, however, by the figures assembled in Table V.

The Dominion Government ceased to contribute to unemployment relief at March 31, 1941. The number of fully employable persons on urban relief was then little more than one-quarter of the total for March, 1939. While a decrease in unemployment relief does not necessarily imply an equal percentage decrease in unemployment, comparison of the figures given in Table V with the employment indices given in Table I seems to show that unemployment in Canada had become negligible at least by the end of 1942.

While employment has remained high since the end of the war, this particular wartime trend is not unfortunately one which can be expected to be permanent.

### Increase in Employment of Women

The percentage of female employees to total employees in certain industries in manufacturing, from 1939 to 1947, is shown in Table VI. The industries shown have been selected partly because of their high percentage of female employees (except Iron and Steel Products), and therefore cannot be considered typical.

From 1939 to 1943, the total number of both sexes employed in manufacturing, according to the Census of Manufacturing, increased from 658,114 to 1,241,068, while the number of female employees increased from 144,461 to 349,535, or from 22 per cent to 28.2 per cent of the total.

It has been estimated that total female employment in Canada, excluding agriculture and the armed forces, increased between April 1939, and April 1943, from 651,000 to 1,006,000<sup>(2)</sup>. More than half of the increase in female employment would appear, therefore, to have taken place in manufacturing.

Since the end of the war, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' Labour Force Survey has estimated total female non-agricultural employment as remaining steadily in the neighbourhood of 900,000. The percentage of women employed in manufacturing (Table VI) has fallen back to approximately the pre-war level. Aside from the general increase in employment, there seems now to be little more tendency to employ females than before the war.

(2) "Changes in Population and in the Labour Force",  
Research and Statistics Branch, Department of  
Labour, December, 1945.



### Increase in Trade Union Membership

Table VII shows total trade union membership, as reported by the unions. As during World War I, the trade unions were able to increase their membership greatly under the conditions of labour scarcity characteristic of wartime. This trend has continued after a slight drop in 1945.

Whether trade union growth will continue in peacetime depends of course on many factors, including especially the extent of unemployment.

The chief wartime trend in trade union activity, aside from the growth in membership, was toward industry-wide bargaining on a national scale, in place of bargaining with individual plants. This tendency culminated in the large strikes of 1946 and in the meat-packers strike of 1947. Industry-wide bargaining was a natural result of the rapid growth, just before and during the war, of the newer type of industrial union, in contrast with the older craft unions. National wartime policies such as wage control probably also tended to limit the results obtainable by local decentralized trade union activity, and to centralize labour disputes in the hands of national representatives of labour, employers, and the government.

It remains to be seen whether, if the labour situation becomes more stabilized, the trend toward industry-wide bargaining will continue or not.

### Ultimate Results of Wartime Changes

All the trends which have been considered, including the geographic movements of population, the increase in female employment, and the growth of trade union membership, have been largely results of the relative growth of manufacturing in the Canadian economy.

If manufacturing, rather than any of the primary industries, is to remain the largest branch of Canadian economic activity, does this involve a drastic change in Canada's economic position? In particular, does it involve the abandonment of Canada's international role as a supplier of the products of the farm, the forest, and the mine, and entrance into competition with the larger industrial nations as an exporter of manufactured goods? Will we find, if we do not make this change, that our expanded manufacturing industries are becoming sources of unemployment and economic stagnation?

Canada's recent export statistics suggest that while manufactured goods form a slightly larger percentage of our total exports than before the war, nevertheless the production of farms, forests, and mines still makes up the bulk of our export trade. Iron and its products have increased only to 10 per cent of the total from an average of approximately 7 per cent in 1937-39.

Exports of pulp and paper, meat, flour, and other manufactured final products of our natural resources, of course, now as in the past, account for an appreciable share of employment in manufacturing.

From a longer-run point of view, the great change in the economic world since 1939 is the disorganization of Europe. What effect this will ultimately have upon Canada's export trade is difficult to decide and discouraging to think about. The disintegration of the industrial complex centering on the Ruhr valley, seems unlikely to be remedied at an early date,

and the removal of this competition might perhaps leave some markets open, both in Europe and overseas, for manufactured goods from Canada. But this gain would be a small recompense for a heavy reduction in our traditional European market for food and raw materials. From this point of view, an early revival of Europe is much to be desired, although part of the price would be intense competition from European manufacturers in export markets, since Europe, especially Great Britain, must increase exports relatively to imports if it is to achieve economic stability.

Since the long-run tendency of economic development in most countries is probably toward an increase of manufacturing relatively to the primary industries, it seems unlikely that Canada's wartime expansion of manufacturing employment from 23.11 per cent to 27.5 per cent of total employment, will in the long run be found excessive. In view of the international economic situation, the vulnerable points in our national economy would seem to be those industries which provide the bulk of our exports, rather than those manufacturing industries which supply primarily the domestic market.

Table I.—Index Numbers of Employment by Main Industrial Groups, Canada, 1939 - 1947

-18-

(Average for 1926 = 100)

Industrial Group	(Source: Employment Statistics Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics)									
	1939 Average	1940 Average	1941 Average	1942 Average	1943 Average	1944 Average	1945 Average	1946 June 1	1946 Dec. 1	1947 June 1
Manufacturing .....	112.3	131.3	168.4	206.5	226.2	224.5	203.6	184.7	194.2	197.5
Logging .....	119.1	166.9	187.8	196.5	180.4	215.8	247.3	193.7	353.9	243.8
Mining .....	163.8	168.4	176.6	171.3	158.5	154.5	146.9	157.5	159.8	157.4
Communications .....	84.4	87.2	96.7	103.7	104.5	108.6	117.6	141.4	154.7	165.7
Transportation .....	85.6	89.7	98.9	105.5	114.4	121.2	124.5	126.8	135.8	140.0
Construction .....	113.0	90.7	126.6	130.3	129.8	104.6	109.1	131.1	145.8	149.6
Services .....	137.4	143.2	167.5	178.8	189.8	202.2	205.7	224.3	226.8	238.4
Trade .....	136.6	142.9	156.5	156.1	155.1	164.2	174.8	187.7	212.0	201.6
Average Eight Industries .....	113.9	124.2	152.3	173.7	184.1	183.0	175.1	169.9	185.7	184.5



Table II—Index Numbers of Employment, War Industries, Canada, June 1, 1939-1947  
(Average for 1939=100)

(Source: Employment Statistics Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics)  
(Indices Adjusted to 1939 Base)

Industry	1939 June 1	1940 June 1	1941 June 1	1942 June 1	1943 June 1	1944 June 1	1945 June 1	1946 June 1	1947 June 1
Iron and Steel Products.....	100.5	129.5	208.3	290.3	349.6	338.8	293.3	213.9	218.5
Crude, Rolled, and Forged.....	100.9	122.9	164.0	190.5	203.6	192.5	188.2	199.8	207.5
Machinery (not Vehicles).....	99.9	115.7	194.5	218.8	213.8	190.5	186.3	203.0	219.8
Agricultural Implements.....	98.3	142.3	188.6	242.1	234.6	213.5	248.8	286.7	326.4
Land Vehicles and Aircraft.....	102.9	129.1	201.3	264.5	319.5	338.6	280.3	194.2	194.4
Automobiles and Parts.....	107.9	126.5	193.1	214.1	230.9	212.9	209.3	198.6	219.1
Steel Shipbuilding and Repairing.....	110.5	319.7	652.1	1509.8	2353.3	2321.2	1914.0	817.7	766.7
Non-Ferrous Metal Products.....	98.4	114.2	173.2	217.2	305.6	287.1	237.4	184.3	205.6
Electrical Apparatus.....	99.0	113.0	157.9	195.1	227.1	252.7	220.5	223.5	265.2
Chemicals and Allied Products.....	99.9	118.2	201.7	446.0	417.6	365.0	336.3	201.1	205.8
Rubber Products.....	98.9	99.2	124.2	116.3	116.9	151.7	167.1	171.8	182.2

Table III —Changes in Population by Provinces, 1931-1946  
(In thousands)

-20-

(Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics—"Count of Ration Book #6, September, 1946")

Province	Population				Net internal migration		
	Ration card count		National Census		1944 = 46	1941 = 44	1931 = 41
	September 1946	April 1944	June 1 1941	June 1 1931			
Canada (9 provinces)	12,334	11,927	11,490	10,363	+ 9	- 9	- 96
Prince Edward Island.....	94	91	95	88	-	- 7	- 3
Nova Scotia.....	615	610	578	513	- 18	+ 8	+ 8
New Brunswick.....	482	460	457	408	+ 3	- 19	- 10
Quebec.....	3,651	3,492	3,332	2,874	- 10	- 13	- 3
Ontario.....	4,118	3,954	3,788	3,432	+ 79	+ 59	+ 78
Manitoba.....	730	730	730	700	- 21	- 25	- 48
Saskatchewan.....	834	844	896	922	- 38	- 86	- 158
Alberta.....	804	816	796	732	- 42	- 15	- 42
British Columbia.....	1,006	930	818	694	+ 56	+ 89	+ 82

Table IV--Rural and Urban Movements of Population, 1911-1946  
(in thousands)

(Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics - "Count of Ration Book #6, September 1946")

Date	Ration Card Count		Census of June 1				Net Internal Migration		
	Sept. 1946	April 1944	1941	1931	1921	1911	1944-46	1941-44	1931-41
Canada 9 provinces.....	12,334	11,927	11,490	10,363	8,775	7,192	+ 9	- 9	-96
Metropolitan Counties...	4,059	3,966	3,621	3,232	2,401	1,768	+ 2	+ 235	+133
Urban Counties.....	3,898	3,785	3,564	3,152	2,749	2,339	-24	+ 65	+ 33
Farm Counties.....	3,708	3,553	3,679	3,444	3,143	2,663	+ 6	-284	-291
Rural Non-farm Counties.	669	623	626	535	482	422	+25	- 25	+ 29



Table V—Decline of Unemployment During the War

Date	(a) Fully Employable Persons on Urban Relief  (Thousands)	(b) Estimated Unemployed  (Thousands)	Estimated Unemployed as Percentage of Total Civilian Labour Force (Per Cent)
1937: March.....	259	450	10.4
September...	117	225	5.1
1938: March.....	175	456	10.3
September...	115	346	7.8
1939: March.....	192	494	11.0
September...	125	300	6.7
1940: March.....	173	-	-
September...	50	-	-
1941: March.....	51	-	-
1941: June 2.....	-	370	8.0
1942: June 1.....	-	238	5.3
1943: June 1.....	-	99	2.2
1944: June 1.....	-	82	1.8
1945: June 1.....	-	106	2.3
1945: Nov. 17.....	-	172	3.8
1946: June 1.....	-	126	2.6
1946: Nov. 9.....	-	115	2.4
1947: May 31.....	-	91	1.9

(a) Total fully employable persons in receipt of urban relief to which the Dominion contributed. From Labour Gazette, Feb. 1941, p. 129.

(b) For 1937-39, estimated number of wage-earners unemployed, from supplement to Census Monograph No. 11, Census of Canada, 1931.  
For 1941-47, total unemployed from 1941 Census and estimates by Central Research and Development Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Table VI—Percentage of Female Employees to Total Employees  
in Selected Industries in Manufacturing, 1939-1947

(Sources: Census of Manufacturing, 1939, 1941, and 1943; and "Sex Distribution of Persons in Recorded Employment", Employment Statistics Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.)

Industry	Census of Manufacturing			D.B.S. Employment Branch				
	1939	1941	1943	Oct. 1 1943	Oct. 1 1944	Oct. 1 1945	Oct. 1 1946	June 1 1947
Manufacturing - Total.....	22.0	22.6	28.2	27.9	28.3	26.0	24.1	22.6
Boots & Shoes.....	37.4	41.2	42.9	44.3	45.0	44.3	41.5	41.6
Printing & Publishing.....	21.3	24.9	31.3	32.2	32.7	31.8	29.8	28.5
Rubber Products.....	29.6	30.0	34.4	34.8	32.9	29.6	30.7	26.1
Textile Products.....	51.1	53.9	59.0	60.0	60.1	59.4	55.7	54.9
Tobacco.....	50.8	56.5	63.4	66.8	68.6	61.2	57.5	56.8
Chemicals & Allied Products.....	23.7	25.4	39.6	40.1	39.6	29.6	28.0	26.0
Electrical Apparatus.....	24.2	28.4	41.1	42.5	43.1	35.8	32.3	31.9
Iron & Steel Products.....	6.0	7.9	16.8	16.7	16.3	10.3	8.6	7.5
Aircraft & Parts.....	3.0	13.1	28.5	30.0	29.1	17.3	-	-

Table VII—Total Trade Union Membership in Canada, as Reported by Trade Unions, 1938 - 1946, and Trade Union Membership as a Percentage of the Total Civilian Labour Force, 1938 - 1946.

(Sources: Trade Union Membership from Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour. Total Civilian Working Force from Central Research and Development Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.)

Year	Trade Union Membership (thousands)	Total Civilian Labour Force at June 1 (thousands)	Trade Union Membership as Percentage of Labour Force %
1938	382	4,430 (a)	8.6
1939	359	4,485	8.0
1940	362	-	-
1941	462	4,612	10.0
1942	573	4,512	12.7
1943	665	4,425	15.0
1944	724	4,525	16.0
1945	711	4,631	15.4
1946	832	4,828	17.2

(a)

Total Civilian Labour Force, figures for 1938-39, from Supplement to Census Monograph No. 11, Census of Canada, 1931.



## EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Labour shortages strain manpower supply - The shortage of labour had become acute by the end of August. Industrial demand was expanding under seasonal pressure while the loss of student labour was creating large gaps in the employment field.

Unemployment had been at a minimum since the beginning of June except among the student population. As the season advanced and the students withdrew, rising industrial needs had to be met largely from within the ranks of the employed. Thus, shifting of workers between jobs greatly increased.

In some cases, the movement was spontaneous, the higher wages of the seasonal jobs attracting labour from other fields, while in others organized transfer schemes directed workers from job to job.

In agriculture, a co-ordinated transfer program arranged for extensive inter-area and inter-provincial movements. In construction, the transfer of workers from project to project increased to offset the loss of labourers to agriculture. Food processing plants were extending their search for labour beyond the immediate local supply and transportation services were being provided to accommodate workers in outlying districts.

The seriousness of the current labour shortage is indicated by the declining number of persons registered for work at National Employment Service offices. At September 18, the unplaced totalled 85,000 - a decline of 112,000 from the yearly high and a 59,000 drop over the September 19, 1946 total.

Demand growing throughout all industries - Seasonal influences in the main were responsible for the steady climb in vacancies. However, replacements to fill the jobs left vacant by the large student force returning to school increased the shortage.

In general manufacturing, the freer flow of materials and the end of vacation shut-downs enlarged employment capacity. Unfilled vacancies rose 10,000 during the last week of August and 17,000 in the first two weeks of September. At September 18, unfilled vacancies numbered 116,000, representing a surplus of 32,000 over the available supply of applicants.

The high-point in agricultural activity occurred during the latter part of August and early September. In construction, the levelling off in rising building costs renewed residential building, while institutional and industrial construction was proceeding as rapidly as the supply of manpower permitted. A heavy program faced the food canning industries, with prospects of attracting sufficient labour uncertain. In mining, the set-back caused by the withdrawal of student labour intensified the already heavy demand for additional manpower.

The number of orders received from non-agricultural industries averaged 32,000 per week during August, indicating a five per cent gain over the previous month.

Applications for work fall below all previous records - Fewer persons entered employment offices during August than in any month in the post-war period. Approximately 27,000 workers registered each week as against 36,000 in the comparative period in 1946. Not only the quantity but the quality of available workers had deteriorated. Those remaining on file had been narrowed down to the handicapped, the inefficient and the older worker.

The limited pool of labour with which to meet the expanding need demanded careful screening and re-screening of the available labour supply. Absorption in the "past 45" age group showed steady **improvement** - the public campaign launched on their behalf was gradually breaking down the "age" discrimination. The selective referral of the physically handicapped was drawing persons into the employment stream who had been previously considered "unemployable".

Immigration begins to ease shortages - The stepping up of immigration was relieving the scarcity of workers in some industries. Polish and Dutch farmers had satisfied the most urgent needs of agriculture while the arrival of woods workers from the European displaced persons camps had greatly improved the employment situation in Ontario lumber camps. The proposed importation of skilled needle workers will ease the seriously undermanned textile industry.

Limited labour supply restricts placements - The declining registration of workers was reflected in a sharp fall in placement activity. Average weekly placements in industry other than agriculture totalled 14,100 in August, as against 15,400 in the previous month. The movement of Nova Scotia workers to Ontario was beginning to taper off; transfers fell to approximately 230 per week, bringing the total migration to 2,444 at September 24.

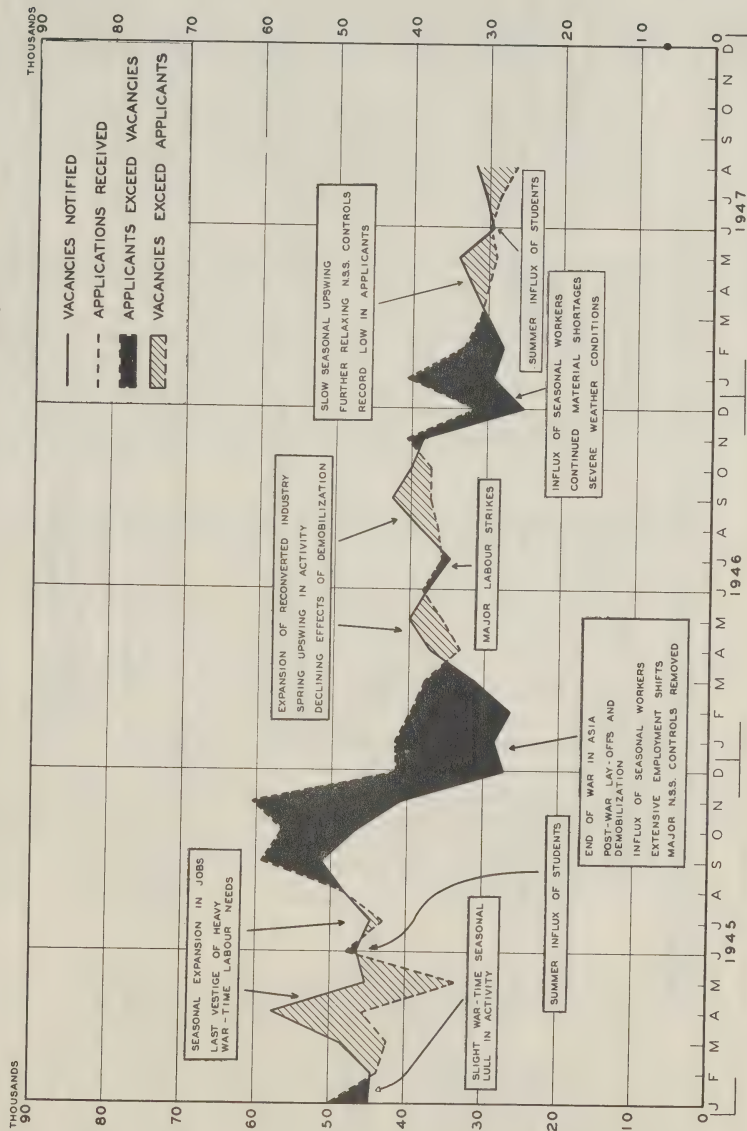
In agriculture, placement activity was gaining momentum. The varying maturing periods of tree and field crops lent themselves to considerable dovetailing of work from area to area. Movement of western workers to Ontario farms during July totalled about 1,000.

The movement was reversed in August when some 2,100 persons were recruited in Ontario and Quebec for the Prairie harvesting season. Within the Maritimes, Nova Scotia was dispatching workers to Prince Edward Island for potato picking. In addition, the exchanging of labour across the United States border was in progress.

Handicapped placement currently spotlighted - The approach to placement work tends to change as the labour market shifts from one of labour surplus to one of labour shortage. When vacancies are scarce the problem is to get a job for the worker; as employment expands, it becomes one of getting a worker for the job. Necessarily, the latter approach called for a careful and selective analysis of all available labour.

# OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

ON A COMPARATIVE MONTHLY BASIS

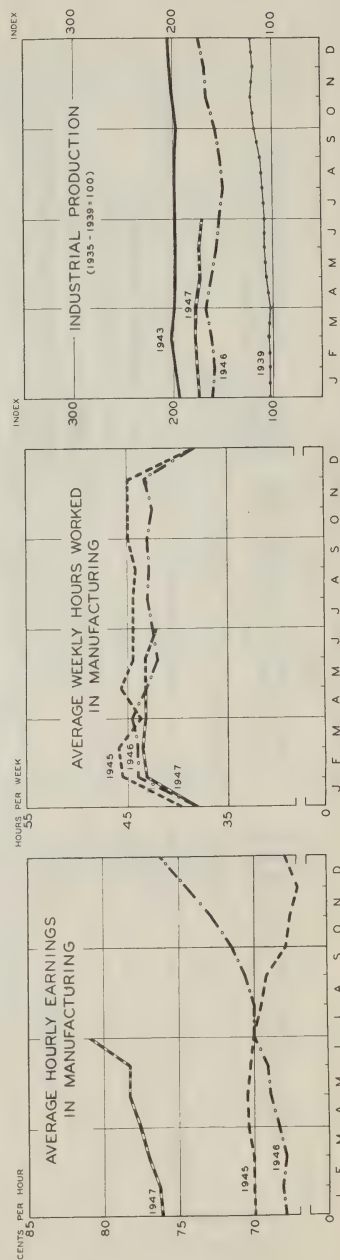
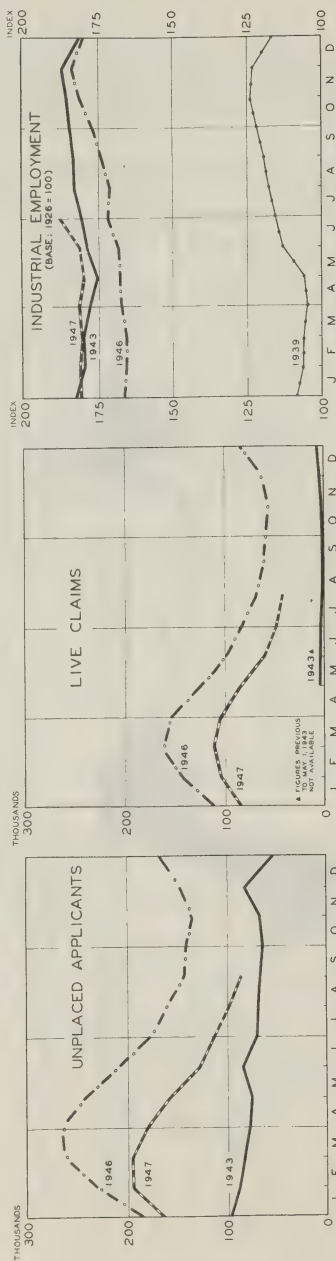


SOURCE: U.I.C. 751-B. DATA EXCLUDE AGRICULTURE AND REPRESENT WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH.



# SIGNIFICANT LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

PRE-WAR, WAR, AND POST-WAR COMPARISON



With this in view, employment officers have been examining all potential sources of labour. Physically handicapped labour was one segment of the labour force in which unemployment continued. In order to make the best use of this reserve of manpower, special placement officers were endeavouring to make an individual study of the capabilities of each applicant.

This analysis, along with a thorough knowledge of job requirements, aided the officer in selecting the most productive line of work for the impaired worker. The number of unplaced handicapped workers had fallen to 3,608 at August 14 in contrast to 6,728 at the corresponding date in 1946.

Youth facilities widely used - The enlargement of National Employment Service facilities designed to deal with youth has greatly increased the number of "first jobbers" channelled through the local employment offices. At the end of July, 19 per cent of available supply was under 20 years of age as against 13 per cent one year before. The absorption of first jobbers had largely been completed by the end of August, although shifting of workers from seasonal to permanent employment was creating a steady stream of youth applicants at employment offices.

Activity at Executive and Professional offices expanded over the year - Placements during August were 35 per cent greater than those recorded one year before. The increase came about because of the greater number of vacancies reported by employers. Vacancies during July and August exceeded those reported in the corresponding period in 1946 by 12 per cent. Applications, on the other hand, indicated a 35 per cent decline.

The current low level of applications reflected the speedy absorption of university graduates earlier in the season. One year before, labour unrest and reconversion difficulties reduced technical and administrative requirements, so that a greater length of time was needed for placing the graduating class.

Average weekly placements during August totalled 51 as against 33 in the corresponding period in 1946. Unfilled vacancies showed a similar gain jumping from 1,307 at August 31, 1946 to 1,700 one year later. Those unplaced, however, were considerably fewer, dropping from 2,430 to 1,999 over the year.

Veteran situation brightens - In contrast to the general field, placement of veterans moved upwards during August. Dischargees of World War I and World War II shared in the upswing.

In the younger age group, heavy labour turnover boosted placement activity as many veterans were taking advantage of the prevailing favorable employment conditions to better their present status. Among the older veterans, the increased absorption rate reflected the co-operation of employers in accepting workers in the more advanced age group. Placements of ex-service personnel averaged 3,536 per week in August in comparison to 3,372 during the previous period.

Reflecting the general expansion in employment, the unplaced ex-service personnel continued to fall and at August 31 totalled less than 23,000. The heaviest concentration continued to be in the Halifax area where the number unplaced stood at about 4,000.

Table I—Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note:—All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Indicators	July 1939	July 1941	July 1942	July 1943	July 1944	July 1945	July 1946	June 1947	July 1947
Employment (a) —									
Index (Av. 1926 = 100) .....	115.8	155.4	173.1	180.7	180.7	173.3	172.2	183.0	187.3
(June 1, 1941 = 100) ..	-	102.8	114.5	119.5	119.5	114.8	114.1	121.3	124.1
Number (thousands) .....	1,243	1,668	1,858	1,940	1,940	1,861	1,848	1,979	2,026
Female (thousands) .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	428	440	447
Unplaced Applicants (b) —									
Total (thousands) .....	-	-	-	60	69	78	177	126	115
Male (thousands) .....	-	-	-	35	40	55	140	94	81
Female (thousands) .....	-	-	-	25	29	23	37	32	34
Live Claims —									
Total (thousands) .....	-	-	-	-	5	17	82	59	48
Male (thousands) .....	-	-	-	-	4	9	60	40	31
Female (thousands) .....	-	-	-	-	1	8	22	19	17
Earnings (a) —									
Aggregate payroll (June 1, 1941 = 100) ..	-	-	128.7	144.3	147.0	143.9	142.2	168.7	173.3
Per capita weekly earnings ..	-	-	28.55	30.99	31.75	32.37	32.35	36.07	36.19
Cost of Living (c) — (Av. 1935-39 = 100) .....	-	111.9	117.9	118.8	119.0	120.3	125.1	134.9	135.9
Man-hours and hourly earnings (a) —									
Average hours per week .....	-	-	-	-	-	44.3	42.4	42.9	42.1
Average hourly earnings .....	-	-	-	-	-	70.1	70.0	79.9	80.8
Strikes and lockouts (b) —									
Number .....	10	29	68	39	23	27	47	31	29
Workers involved (thousands) .....	4	22	22	16	10	12	50	17	3
Man-working days lost (thousands) .....	12	49	53	66	26	45	92	166	24
Industrial Production (d) — (Av. 1935-39 = 100) .....	107.3	155.6	186.4	197.4	197.3	173.5	153.5	176.2	171.6

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only.)

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.



# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES

## MANUFACTURING.....

Estimated employment.....1,325,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 39,250

The Canadian labour market in the manufacturing industries during the late summer of 1947 was featured by a sharp rise in the number of job openings reported to the National Employment Service. At the end of August, 39,000 unfilled vacancies had been registered, 12,000 more than the total at the end of July. Over 92 per cent of these vacancies were in Quebec and Ontario.

Increased activity in food processing and textile and apparel industries accounted for most of this increase. With the peak of the canning season approaching, orders were on hand for 9,765 workers in the food and kindred products industry at August 28, an increase of over 6,000 in a one-month period.

The increase in textile vacancies was also seasonal, a larger labour force being required for the manufacture of Fall clothing. Of the 11,500 vacancies in this industry, which total was 2,500 above that for July 31, over 80 per cent were for women workers.

The only nation-wide strike to occur in the first nine months of 1947 took place in the meat packing industry in the middle of September, with the walkout of some 14,000 workers. This was the second major strike of 1947, the other being in the Maritimes, where 13,000 coal miners were off work from February 15 to June 11.

Weekly earnings in manufacturing, as reported by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, have risen just slightly less than \$4.00 in the past year. The figure now stands at \$36.45, as compared to \$32.46 at July 1, 1946.

## AGRICULTURE.....

Estimated employment.....1,250,000

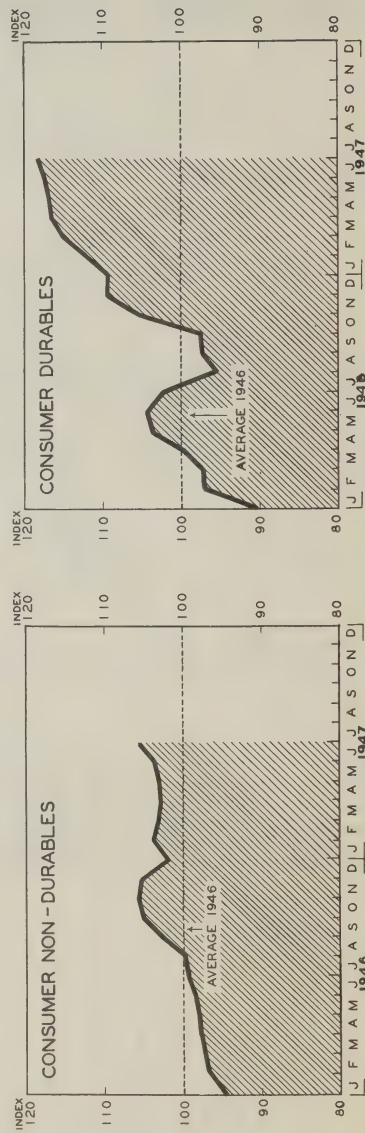
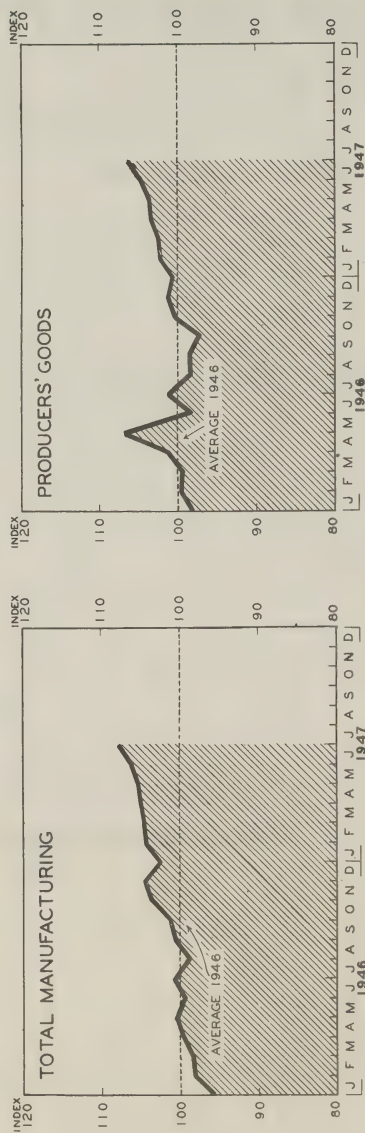
Reports received from regional employment offices early in September indicate that the shortage of farm labour for the harvest was acute in only one province, Ontario. The employment situation on the Prairies was not considered serious and was ameliorated by the arrival of some 2,000 eastern farmers.

# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

## MAJOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

(INDUSTRIES GROUPED ACCORDING TO GENERAL USE OF PRODUCTS)

1946 — 1947



SERVICES.....

Estimated employment.....825,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 20,500

With a state of full employment such as the present, the lower paid and less attractive fields of work, such as domestic and personal service, fail to attract the average worker. Consequently, labour demand in this industry continued high during the summer of 1947.

Over 20,000 vacancies were reported to the National Employment Service at the end of August, and this represents only a part of total labour demand in the service industries. Of this total, 8,500 were reported in personal service and 3,500 in domestic service. The first group of the 1,000 displaced persons scheduled to enter domestic service in Canada arrived during September.

A small strike took place in the services industry in British Columbia this summer which was significant in view of recent trends in labour legislation and unionization. This was the strike of some 30 laundry workers in Nanaimo from June 9 to August 11.

The immediate cause of the strike was the dismissal of two women workers but the issue developed into a test case of a recently passed provincial labour law which calls for conciliation and a vote before a strike can be held. The procedure in this strike did not meet the requirements of the act.

British Columbia labour unions considered the legislation "anti-labour" and took this opportunity to rally to fight the bill. After dragging on for two months, the strike was ended after a court decision which declared the strike "illegal" and fined the strikers a nominal \$1 and \$1 costs. The case of the two dismissed workers was put up to arbitration.

TRADE, FINANCE, and INSURANCE.....

Estimated employment.....720,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 12,000

The most active labour market in this industry group is to be found in retail trade where employers now are adding to their staffs in preparation for Fall and Christmas buying. At the first of September, the trading industries needed another 10,000 workers to bring their staffs up to strength, 7,200 in retail and 2,600 in wholesale. Nearly 5,000 of the total vacancies were in Ontario, 2,200 in Quebec, and 1,000 in the Prairies. Greatest demand was for sales help but packers, shippers, and office workers were also being sought.

Retail trade employment has been rising steadily since 1943. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index of retail trade employment at July 1, 1947, stood at 211.2 (on the base 1926 average equals 100), compared with 197.5 one year previous. Sales show signs of levelling off, however. The value of retail trade in July of this year was reported as 11 per cent higher than it was in July 1946, but no adjustment has been made to these figures for price changes where the advance was equally rapid.

A more stable employment situation exists in the finance and insurance group. Some 85,000 persons now are employed here, with a registered labour demand for 2,000. These 2,000 vacancies are about equally divided by sex, with the general shortage of women workers of suitable background being felt strongly.



TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS.....

Estimated employment.....375,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 3,700

Labour-management relations in the highly unionized steam railway industry have been highlighted this summer by a dispute over vacations with pay. A Federal conciliation board was appointed to mediate the dispute and briefs were received from the unions and companies concerned on June 10.

Some fifteen unions, claiming to represent 65 per cent of all railway employees in Canada, or about 115,000 workers, are involved. The railways involved are the Canadian National and the Canadian Pacific, **the jointly and separately owned subsidiaries and ancillaries** of these companies, and six other smaller railways.

The union request was that: "All employees shall be granted fourteen days' vacation with pay each year, exclusive of legal holidays, to become effective during the year 1947."

In its findings, the Board recommended that "employees with one year's service should be entitled to six days' vacation with pay, that those of three years' should be entitled to nine days, and those of five years' to twelve days".

However, it was recognized that, at the present time, the companies are apparently unable to absorb the increased costs involved in accepting the Board's recommendations. The Board, therefore, suggested that these recommendations be brought to the notice of the Board of Transport Commissioners which is currently considering the railways' request for a 30 per cent freight rate increase.

During September, a strike vote was held by the unions with the result being kept secret. No decision regarding a strike is expected before a judgment is handed down on the request for higher freight rates. A general meeting to decide union policy is being held in Montreal on October 14.

A second dispute in the transportation industry, between the Canadian Seamen's Union and the Canada Steamship Lines and the Sarnia and Colonial Steamships, was settled during August.

An unusual feature of the agreement was the provision for a waiver form to be signed by union representatives boarding ships. Canadian Seamen's Union agents are required to declare that they are neither Communists nor Communist agents and that they will not engage in political activity or propaganda on shipboard. On their side, the companies agreed to negotiate with the C.S.U. for a 1948 agreement if a government supervised vote shows the union has the support of the seamen.

CONSTRUCTION.....

Estimated employment.....283,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 13,300

A significant trend in residential building occurred during August when the value of contracts awarded jumped to \$27.3 millions,

or 44 per cent above the same month in 1946. High costs had kept the level of house building down during the earlier part of the year however, and the 8 month total of contracts awarded for residential building is 17 per cent below the same period in 1946.

Total value of contracts awarded of all types in the first 8 months of this year was \$474.1 millions compared to last year's total of \$460.7 millions to the end of August.

Table I—Construction Contracts Awarded  
(Millions of Dollars)

(Source: MacLean's Building Reports Ltd.)

Type	8-Months Total			Month of August		
	1947	1946	Per Cent Change	1947	1946	Per Cent Change
Eng. const....	123.2	85.4	+44	17.2	8.8	+95
Comm. & Inst'l	168.0	128.6	+31	19.9	14.8	+34
Factories.....	57.5	94.8	-39	8.0	7.6	+5
Housing.....	125.5	151.9	-17	27.3	19.2	+42
Total....	474.1	460.7	+3	72.4	50.4	+44

This recent upward trend is not the result of a levelling off in building costs. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index of prices of building materials has been moving steadily upwards during 1947 and at July 1 stood at 164.0 (1926 average equals 100). Last July, the comparable figure was 134.2. Current estimates of wage rate data, showing recent increases, are given below.

It should be remembered that contracts awarded represent a preliminary stage of construction activity, and their translation into actual employment could be prevented by labour and material shortages.

During August, the effect of both these shortages was very apparent in all regions. Unfilled vacancies outnumbered unplaced applicants by a 3 to 1 ratio. Eight thousand more unskilled labourers were needed, partly due to the return to school of students who had been in temporary summer employment in this industry.

Table II—Wage Rates in Construction Occupations for Selected Cities

(Source: MacLean's Engineering and Contract Record)

	Montreal \$	Toronto \$	Winnipeg \$	Vancouver <sup>(b)</sup> \$
Bricklayers.....	1.40	1.66(a)	1.45	1.45
Carpenters.....	1.06	1.41(a)	1.25	1.25
Cement finishers.....	.89	1.25(a)	.85	1.20
Electricians.....	1.11	1.51(a)	1.25	1.35
Labourers (common).....	.67	.78(a)	.70	.80
Labourers (skilled)....	.73	.94(a)	.80	.86
Painters.....	.95	1.18(c)	1.10	1.15-1.25
Plasterers.....	1.17	1.56(a)	1.45	1.475
Plumbers.....	1.11	1.54(a)	1.35	1.35

(a) Includes 4 per cent assessment for holidays.

(b) Does not include  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent assessment for holidays.

(c) Includes 2 per cent assessment for holidays.

#### MINING.....

Estimated employment.....77,000

Unfilled vacancies..... 4,000

About one-third of Canada's mine labour force is employed in coal mining, of whom approximately 55 per cent are located in Nova Scotia and the remainder in the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia.

Although hampered by a shortage of certificated miners, coal mining employment in Canada reached its highest level since 1944 at 27,000, just prior to the three-month strike which began on February 15 of this year. Latest data show that employment has not regained its pre-strike size, currently being at the 24,000 mark.

Due chiefly to the strike, coal production during the first six months of 1947 was 28 per cent below the total for the same period in 1946. During the month of June, coal production totalled 1,122,179 short tons, as compared with 1,258,782 short tons in June, 1946.

On an hourly basis, coal miners are the highest paid workers of any Canadian industry for which comparable statistics are available. The \$1.09-cent-an-hour average earnings made by coal miners compares with a \$1.01 figure for metal miners and 77.0 cents an hour in non-metallic (chiefly asbestos) mines. Average weekly earnings in metal mines were the highest of the three groups however, at \$44.95, as these miners worked more hours per week. Coal miners averaged \$41.28 and non-metallic mine workers \$33.86



FORESTRY, FISHING AND TRAPPING.....

Estimated employment.....123,000

Additional required..... 27,850 (logging only)

Labour demand in pulpwood logging picked up during September with the beginning of the cutting season. The trek of men from the farm to the bush was getting underway, but the peak of employment will not be reached until the turn of the year.

At September 6, some 32,800 men were working in camps in Manitoba and the east, according to estimates of the Industry Pulpwood Committee, an association of employers. Last year at the same date, 26,400 were employed.

The number of additional men required at the middle of September was 25,000 and the net employment gain during October should run at the rate of from 3,000-5,000 per week. Last season, the high point in pulpwood logging employment in eastern Canada and Manitoba was not reached until December 7, at 74,000.

In the fishing industry, indications are that the Maritimes fisheries are beginning to revert to their pre-war level of activity after the war-created bonanza. Falling prices, especially for cod, and reduced markets now face the industry. Competition from Newfoundland and Iceland is cutting into the United States market. The British Columbia industry is in a satisfactory position with markets already assured for this year's salmon pack.

During the first seven months of 1947, the total value to Canadian fishermen of their catch was \$24.7 millions, or \$5.6 millions below the total for the same period in 1946. This decline was due to lower prices and a smaller catch on the Atlantic coast, as returns to B.C. fishermen were higher. From 1935-9, the average annual value of fish caught during the first seven months of the year was \$8.8 millions.

Table III--Average Hours and Hourly Earnings - Average Weekly Wages in Major Canadian Industries

(Source: Labour and Prices Br. D.B.S.)

Item	July 1, 1947	June 1, 1947	May 1, 1947	July 1, 1946	July 1, 1945
<u>MANUFACTURING</u>					
Av. hours.....	42.1	42.9	43.2	42.4	44.3
Av. hourly earnings ....¢	80.8	79.9	77.6	70.0	70.1
Av. weekly wages .....\$	34.02	34.28	33.52	29.68	31.05
<u>Iron and Steel Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	42.7	43.4	44.9	42.5	45.4
Av. hourly earnings ....¢	91.7	91.2	90.0	80.1	81.7
Av. weekly wages .....\$	39.16	39.58	39.24	34.04	37.09
<u>Textile Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	39.2	41.5	41.7	40.0	41.5
Av. hourly earnings ....¢	61.8	61.6	60.7	54.6	51.2
Av. weekly wages .....\$	24.23	25.56	25.31	21.84	21.25
<u>Pulp and Paper Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	45.7	45.5	45.5	45.7	45.4
Av. hourly earnings ....¢	91.4	89.8	82.2	76.0	70.0
Av. weekly wages .....\$	41.77	40.86	37.85	34.73	31.78
<u>Edible Plant Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	41.2	41.6	41.9	42.2	42.1
Av. hourly earnings ....¢	64.8	64.6	63.0	57.3	55.0
Av. weekly wages .....\$	26.70	26.87	26.33	24.18	23.16
<u>Edible Animal Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	43.8	43.6	43.0	43.9	44.4
Av. hourly earnings ....¢	74.5	74.4	75.4	64.7	62.2
Av. weekly wages .....\$	32.63	32.44	32.43	28.40	27.62
<u>MINING</u>					
Av. hours.....	42.2	40.5	43.2	43.5	44.6
Av. hourly earnings ....¢	98.9	96.9	95.8	87.4	84.4
Av. weekly wages .....\$	41.74	39.24	41.43	38.02	37.64
<u>BUILDING CONSTRUCTION</u>					
Av. hours.....	38.5	39.1	38.9	38.3	40.9
Av. hourly earnings ....¢	90.5	90.9	88.1	82.9	79.9
Av. weekly wages .....\$	34.84	35.54	34.27	31.75	32.68

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following is a brief summary of August labour market conditions in each of the five regions, Maritime, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie, and Pacific.

Table I—Unplaced Applicants by Region, at Selected Dates

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

Region	August 28, 1947			July 31, 1947	August 29, 1946
	Male	Female	Total	Total	Total
Maritime.....	11,900	2,200	14,100	16,100	21,300
Quebec.....	15,800	7,200	23,000	24,900	36,100
Ontario.....	13,900	8,600	22,500	28,600	47,200
Prairie.....	8,200	4,700	12,900	15,400	19,500
Pacific.....	10,300	3,200	13,500	13,900	20,500
Canada.....	60,100	25,900	86,000	98,900	144,600

### MARITIME REGION.....

Continued decrease in number of job applicants—The August decline of some 2,000 in the number of unplaced applicants corresponded to the decrease in August, 1946, the labour surplus remaining about 7,000 below last year's level. Agriculture, construction and the seasonal processing of foodstuffs continued as the principal industries receiving labour.

Require 1,400 men to pick potato crop—Potato yields will be somewhat higher than first expected. Exports should start to move by the end of September, when heavy shipments to South America will begin. About 700 potato pickers from Cape Breton will go to Prince Edward Island, and about the same number will be recruited in New Brunswick for the potato areas there.

Five hundred workers will be sent to potato fields in Maine. In addition, about 200 men have been sent for the Maine pea and bean harvest.

New Brunswick project for land reclamation—The New Brunswick provincial government has instituted a survey of the marshlands in the south-eastern section of the province with the object of reclaiming



tens of thousands of acres for agricultural land. It is believed that the provincial government will ask the Dominion Government for assistance such as was extended to the irrigation developments in the Prairie Provinces. Such a large addition to agricultural acreage could boost Maritime agricultural production substantially.

Lower catches reported in fishing industry—Landings on the Atlantic Coast during August were less than 70 per cent of the total for August 1946. Lower catches were reported for both cod and herring. Employment in fish processing plants was therefore not so great as anticipated. No changes in prices to fishermen, except those due to normal seasonal variations, were reported.

Construction employment affected by building costs and material shortages—A serious shortage of cement in many areas has held up construction projects. Some layoffs of workers have also taken place for the same cause. Contractors do not seem too optimistic about future deliveries.

Not only have high costs of building deterred the start of much construction, but now are holding up work already begun on a hospital at Summerside, P.E.I. Work will not recommence until new financing can be undertaken.

Except for Moncton, N.B., where there are no applicants available to meet the heavy demand, skilled and unskilled labour is generally in good supply. Tradesmen are scarce in some areas—masons at Minto, N.B., carpenters and plasterers at Campbellton, N.B.

Limited demand for labour in manufacturing—Meat packing, dairy products and canned and cured fish companies report a very heavy season. But labour demand is beginning to fall. Textile mills have returned to normal production after the vacation period. There is a steady demand for female workers, both skilled and semi-skilled machine operators and general factory workers for men's and boy's clothing manufacturing.

Scarcity of woods workers—The demand for woods workers still exists, with little prospect of filling most of the orders. Nearly all the vacancies are with the bigger operators of northern New Brunswick.

By offering higher wages and more attractive working conditions, agents for B.C. logging operators recruited 300 Maritimers. Unfortunately, most of the men were employed farm and woods workers who will be difficult to replace.

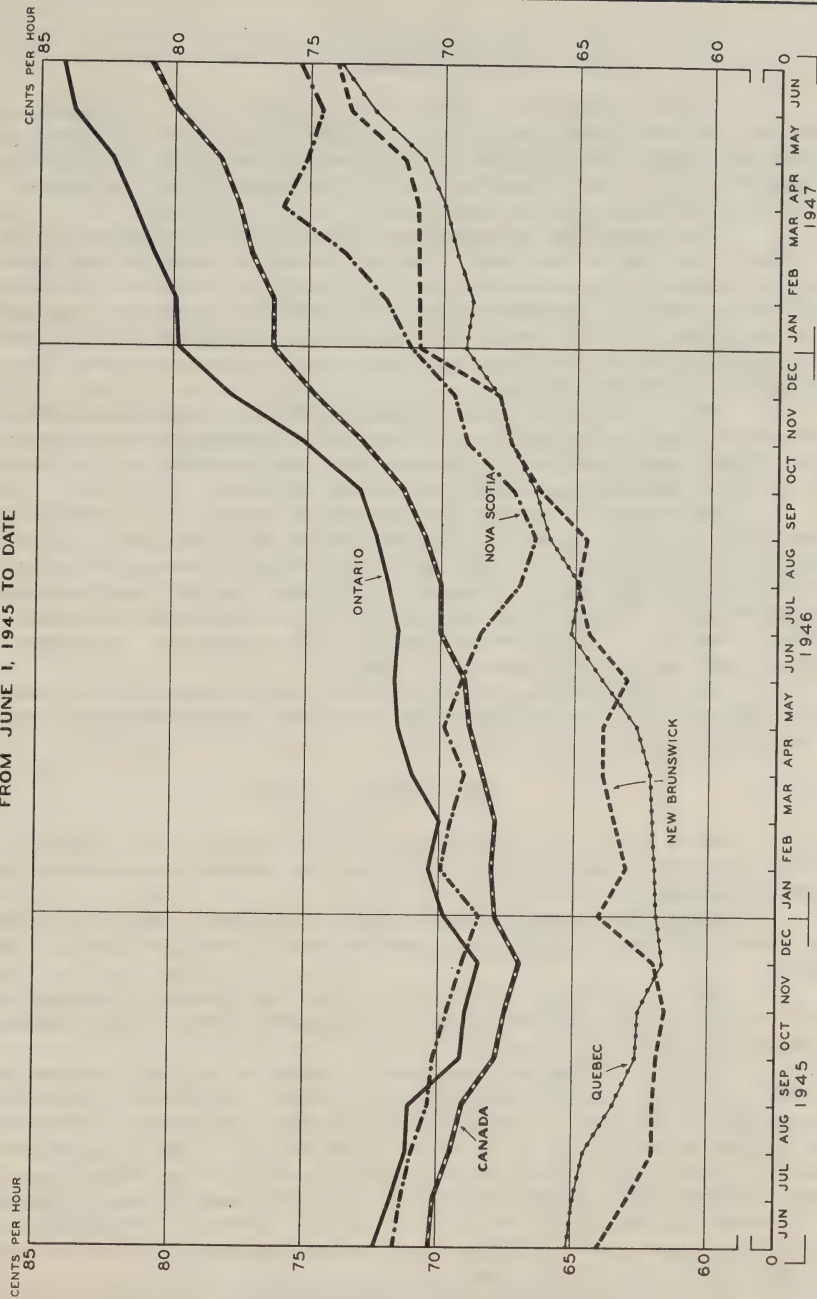
Little change in the coal mining industry—Cape Breton mines are continuing to increase production; at Dominion No. 25 Colliery loaders formerly paid on datal rates now are on contract basis, with the result that output has been almost doubled.

Mines at Minto, N.B. remain in an unsettled condition. Few of them have been operating full time since the strike, operators claiming that they cannot sell coal because of the increase in price which was necessary to pay the increased wages. Representations have been made to the Dominion Government for subsidies "which would put Minto coal on a footing equal with that produced in Nova Scotia."

# AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS OF WAGE EARNERS IN MANUFACTURING

NOVA SCOTIA - NEW BRUNSWICK - QUEBEC - ONTARIO

FROM JUNE 1, 1945 TO DATE



SOURCE: EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL STATISTICS BRANCH - D.B.S.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M.2-R.1

### Halifax

During the period between April 1, 1947, when unplaced applicants were at the yearly peak and July 1, unplaced applicants declined by 826 but in the same interval total reported employment fell 2,505. This trend, of course, is a direct contradiction of the usual where employment goes up, and unplaced applicants decrease.

The answer to the problem is tied up with an emigration of workers to Ontario and Quebec centres. The emigration of workers from this city is largely made up of men for whom very few jobs are available locally. It has been stated that many more of these unskilled workers could secure jobs in outside areas if it were not for physical limitations. It is estimated that as many are leaving the district on their own as are sent through the local employment office.

Public work projects in this and other depressed Maritime centres are numerous and employ many men. Most public works projects are on break-water repairs and dredging. Ordinary construction work is, of course, active and provides jobs for a substantial number of men.

Employment in water transportation shows a considerable drop since March 1. This slack in shipping activity at the port is indirectly causing unemployment in the salt mines at Malagash where the majority of the 100 workers are idle. Cutbacks in railway freight cars which normally use large quantities of salt for preserving various types of produce were the main reason. It was also stated that the provincial government did not use much salt on gravel roads this year.

Local shipyards, including small wooden boatbuilders, have been busy, and possibilities are good for continued high employment particularly in the Halifax Shipyards Ltd.

### New Glasgow - Pictou

There is no new information on conditions in the fishing industry in this district. Last month's conditions of reduced markets and a cut in prices still apply.

Agriculture provided very little additional work this year as most farms suffered from the poor weather conditions prevalent across the country.

There has been a slackening off in the demand for woods workers of all types, mostly because of the fire hazard. Demand for loggers should increase during the next month.

Roughly 500 men are employed in branches of the iron and steel industry which are providing steady employment. At June 1, these 500 men represented 50 per cent of total iron and steel employment. However, a considerable upswing will be created by additional orders for railway cars awarded to the Eastern Car Company. Employment in this company has fluctuated between 1,200 to 200 during the past nineteen months. This company now is receiving materials for the new C.N.R. order and state that at the peak of the order about 1,200 men may be employed and that work should last until February or March of 1948.

Unplaced applicants are below the level at any time since the beginning of 1946, but during the same period total reported employment has dropped considerably. Construction work undoubtedly accounts for part



of the decrease in unplaced applicants this summer but a large part of it can also be traced to an emigration of workers from this area.

### Saint John

Despite the fact that the province of New Brunswick has not had to cope with a severe state of unemployment, such as has existed in Nova Scotia for some time, civic officials in Saint John, the principal city of New Brunswick, are definitely concerned about maintaining employment at reasonably high levels in the future.

Reported employment is roughly 90 per cent above September 1, 1939 and manufacturing employment, with the exception of the shipbuilding industry, is relatively high compared to the war years. Non-manufacturing industries, particularly the trade, service and transportation industries, are still by far the largest employers of labour, non-manufacturing employing 46 per cent more workers than manufacturing at June 1, 1947.

The main concern at the moment is the fact that the number of unplaced applicants has remained stable for many months. While a large number of male workers have been placed in jobs, the registering of new applicants continues to keep pace with hiring activity. It is difficult to estimate how many persons from depressed areas in Nova Scotia and young first-jobbers in the area are applying for employment. Present indications lead to the belief that despite fairly high employment in local industry there is insufficient industrial expansion to absorb newcomers in the labour market.

The Saint John Drydock is the only large Canadian shipyard without contracts for new ship construction. Civic officials, besides pressing for the continuance of shipbuilding as a major source of employment, are doing their utmost to secure work projects which will support a relatively high level of employment.

### Sydney

The Sydney area is in a difficult position, inasmuch as the two major industries are working at capacity and yet unplaced applicants still numbered 3,296 at the end of August. With little industrial expansion of any size taking place, "first jobbers" and surplus workers have little chance of securing employment of any kind.

At February 1, 1947, just prior to the coal strike, reported employment numbered 19,394 in all industry, compared to 18,208 at July 1. This would indicate a loss of employment for 1,186 workers during the period; in the same interval, unplaced applicants declined by 858. In other words, despite a decrease in employment unplaced applicants declined during the same period. A comparison of employment from February 1, to June 1, would reveal a more marked slump in employment but from June 1, to July 1, coal mining employment which was the principal cause of the employment slump, picked up 1,915 workers. However, employment in coal mining is still below the pre-strike level.

From the whole Maritime region, but principally from Cape Breton, 3,000 workers were transferred through the efforts of the National Employment Service to other areas during the past year. It is estimated that another 3,000 workers have departed on their own. Thus the largest part of the decline in unplaced applicants in the Sydney area is due to a movement of workers to more prosperous areas.

QUEBEC REGION.....

Regional excess of vacancies over applicants—The generally buoyant Canadian labour market is reflected in Quebec, where vacancies for both male and female labour exceed registered job seekers. Montreal is the chief labour shortage area. Hull and Quebec City, however, still are centres of unemployment.

Agricultural labour needs generally satisfied—The grain and root crops in the province have been only average, but a good hay crop was harvested. The labour situation is good, with most of the demand readily met.

The movement of some 5,500 agricultural workers to the United States got underway at the end of the month. The workers will be engaged in the harvest of apple, potato, and other vegetable crops.

Early in August 150 workers were sent to Ontario for haying and about 450 workers have been sent to the Prairie provinces for harvesting.

Demand for woods labour starting to increase—The movement of labour to wood camps has begun, and as great a number of workers, if not more than in any previous year, is expected in the woods this winter. The number of displaced persons from Europe going to camps in Ontario will probably lighten the demand for Quebec labour.

Men still needed in the mining industry—The demand for workers in producing mines is heavy. The movement of men has been fairly good, but additional orders are coming in.

Continued good news is reported from mining discoveries in north-western Quebec and also from the Quebec-Labrador iron deposits. A new air route is being started from Seven Islands on the coast to service the iron fields.

Steel supply situation improving—Stocks of steel and sheet metal have continued to improve. Employers now are faced with a shortage of skilled tradesmen. This is particularly true of the shipbuilding industry, which is badly in need of first class sheet metal workers.

Leather shortage interrupts production—A slight decline in the production volume of the footwear industry and also of the glove industry has been caused by a shortage of leather. Several plants have been forced to close for short periods.

The cancellation of a contract from England for 500,000 pairs of shoes has caused Dominion Rubber's Montreal Footwear branch to close the night shift. One hundred and thirty employees have been released.

Upward trend in wages for women—An analysis of wage rates for women offered in the Montreal area during August showed that the upward trend in evidence during the past six months has continued. Twenty-two per cent of vacancies offered \$15 per week or less, 44 per cent from \$16 to \$20, 16 per cent from \$20 to \$25, 9 per cent from \$26 to \$33, and 9 per cent over \$33. In April, 72 per cent of the vacancies for women



offered \$20 or less per week; in August, the percentage had declined to 66 per cent.

Montreal reports that all leading tobacco companies have increased their rates of pay. Girls now start at 41 cents per hour, rather than at the previous rate of 35 cents.

In the textile industry, also there has been an increase in wage rates. Labour contracts recently signed, raised the rate for beginners in Montreal textile plants to 45 cents per hour. Comparative raises between 5 and 15 cents an hour have been given to experienced workers.

#### Chicoutimi

Employment in the aluminum industry, which has gained steadily since the beginning of 1946, showed a slight drop during July and August. This was not traceable to a lessened demand for aluminum, but due to the extreme difficulty during the hot weather in obtaining workers for foundry-type labour. It is expected that employment will show a sharp upswing in the fall. Orders for workers for the Alcan plant are being placed in employment offices throughout Quebec and the Maritime provinces.

Future prospects for Arvida's basic industry, aluminum production, are extremely bright. The Aluminum Company of Canada is working on a contract to provide Great Britain with 216,000 metric tons of aluminum within the next two years, in the meantime filling many other domestic and foreign commitments.

Employment in the logging industry now is at a seasonal low, but it is expected that this winter's cut will top that of 1946. Local employers' labour requirements for the next two months are estimated at 5,000.

#### Montreal

Job openings in the Montreal labour market area now are at an all-time high; vacancies listed with the National Employment Offices outnumbering available applicants by more than 2 to 1, as at the end of August.

Stocks of steel and sheet metal have improved to such an extent during the past few months that employers now are faced with a serious shortage of skilled and unskilled metal workers. The shipbuilding industry, in particular, is handicapped by the lack of skilled help. All the Canadian Car and Foundry shops are working at full capacity in order to speed up delivery of the 6,000 railway cars for the C.P.R. and C.N.R. Work on this contract has been delayed by material bottlenecks.

The exceptionally good weather during July and August has been a boon to the construction industry. Commercial building is very active despite the fact that labour is in short supply. Among the many new industrial projects planned is a \$6 million modern terminal for the C.P.R. and a \$4 million building for I.C.A.O..

#### Quebec

The month of August marked a further improvement in the employment situation in the Quebec labour market area. At the beginning of September



unplaced applicants numbered less than half the January 1, 1947 total, while unfilled vacancies were more numerous than at any time since the end of 1945.

With the exception of leather goods manufacturing plants, the majority of manufacturing industries maintained a high level of employment during August. Manufacturers of cement blocks and bricks could take on additional workers if more raw materials were available. Staff increases are forthcoming at the Dominion Textile Co. where a shorter work week will be in force in the near future.

The majority of firms who purchased space in the St. Malo Arsenal buildings have not yet commenced operations, owing to delayed deliveries of vital machinery and other production difficulties. Crane Ltd., manufacturers of plumbing equipment, recently acquired an establishment at St. Malo. This firm will build up a staff of 200 between now and December, eventually bringing its total employment up to 400.

The construction industry continues active, although lack of materials and skilled tradesmen is hampering operations to some extent. Central Housing and Mortgage have contracted to build 200 small homes in Quebec, but it is feared that rising costs of material and labour will put them out of reach of the average working man, to whom the housing shortage is a real problem.

#### Shawinigan Falls

According to the report on Chemicals and Allied Products, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, it appears that the chemical industries have emerged from the war in a slightly better position than industry as a whole. In the case of Shawinigan Chemicals Limited, employment has retained all of the wartime gain.

From limestone, coal and electric power, the Shawinigan chemical industry produces many products; a broad breakdown of these includes industrial chemicals, plastics, stainless steel and alloys. The Carbide Division was considerably hampered last year by lack of steel barrels for shipping purposes but this handicap has been overcome and production increased. Industrial chemicals manufacturing also expanded to some extent last year, but the main expansion program is concentrated in the plastics field. The original plant is being enlarged and a new plant is being built. Both the addition and new plant should be in operation in mid-1948.

Employment has expanded 150 per cent since September 1, 1939 and expansion plans will guarantee more employment when operations commence.

All the manufacturing plants in this region are producing at capacity with the exception of shoe and glove manufacturing which has been periodically hampered by material shortages.

Hundreds of men are engaged in the river drive and in construction work. Placements of women continue as manufacturers increase production. There were only about 200 men and 300 women registered as unplaced applicants in this area at August 1.

### Sherbrooke

The textile industry in Sherbrooke is of vital importance to this area's economy. All sections of the primary textile industry are represented in Sherbrooke. In every plant there is evidence of large scale modernization programs designed both to increase productive efficiency, which most mill executives state is not so great as it should be, and of course to reduce manufacturing costs.

There is a keen appreciation of the fact that the current boom in the textile industry will not last indefinitely and that the period of readjustment will demand lower prices and better quality. The hosiery mills are gravely concerned about difficulties in the way of expanding exports - the present dollar shortage has built up since this observation and will further complicate matters.

The woollen and worsted trade is concerned about prospective demand but is displaying great vigour and originality in producing new merchandise. There is also a feeling that the rayon weaving industry, which has greatly increased its loomage in the past eighteen months, will not find it easy to maintain the current high rate of operations. However, plant modernization in this line will mean better quality goods at lower prices, with greatest emphasis on new and distinctive styles.

There is a growing feeling that the Canadian textile industry is coming into its own and a higher percentage of better quality cloth is being produced all the time. Some executives feel that this type of goods will be able to meet competition from foreign firms.

The main trouble with which the industry has to cope is securing labour for night shifts; the local employment officer states that a shortage of night workers will continue as long as so much day work is available in alternative industries.

The current labour shortage is not confined to the textile industry. There is still a keen demand for construction workers, and men for iron and steel plants, with few applicants available. The shortage of female workers is also prevalent in retail and wholesale trade where there is a shortage of clerks. Present overall employment conditions are exceptionally good. The current emphasis is on a shortage of workers.

### Three Rivers

During July and August male unplaced applicants declined by 500, while female unplaced applicants showed a drop of 160. The decrease in the number of male job seekers is largely due to seasonal employment increases in manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries.

Local pulp and paper mills have taken on extra men for yard operations during the summer, and the construction, agriculture and water transportation industries have provided temporary employment for a large number of men.

Termination of Unemployment Insurance Benefits has caused a number of women to cease placing applications with the employment office, thus reducing the number of unplaced applicants listed there.

The pulp and paper industry is very active at present, placements during the past two months amounting to over 50. Both primary and secondary textiles maintained high employment levels throughout the summer, although production was below average because of absenteeism during the hot weather. This industry is in need of unskilled workers.

Valleyfield

The fourteen percent increase in the number of unplaced applicants during August was due mainly to recessions in local manufacturing industry.

The War Assets Corporation repair depot released 200 workers (mostly female) during July and August, and will lay-off an additional 100 during September. Lack of export orders has necessitated a lay-off of 20 workers in the bronze-powder manufacturing industry. Under seasonal influences the shoe manufacturing industry is less active and temporary staff reductions occurred during August.

Despite recent cut-backs in a number of Valleyfield's minor industries, employment in textile manufacturing remained high. Montreal Cottons as yet has been unable to build its staff up to the June 1, 1946 (pre-strike) level. Many unskilled workers released by War Assets will fill vacancies at Montreal Cottons, but skilled workers, particularly weavers, remain in short supply.

At present the majority of Valleyfield textile firms are faced with a sizable backlog of orders; thus it is expected that production will be increased during the last quarter of 1947, providing that sufficient labour is available.

ONTARIO REGION.....

Agricultural labour demand high during August - Hot weather, with little rain, during August brought crops to maturity sooner than had been hoped for in the early summer. A general scarcity of farm help was prevalent throughout the province, making it difficult to meet requests for workers to go to the Prairie provinces. However, about 1,400 men were despatched to the west by the end of the month.

The tobacco harvest had begun by the middle of the month and progressed satisfactorily. In general, there was adequate help in the tobacco areas. High wages attracted labour from many industries other than agriculture. The average wage ranged between \$7 and \$10 a day with board for leaf-handers and boat-drivers, and \$12 a day and over for primers and tiers.

The needs of the growers for curers from the southern United States were met successfully. Here the wages ranged between \$75 and \$85 a week plus board and approximately \$50 for transportation expenses.

Slightly increased activity in pulpwood camps—Plans for the coming season indicate another big year in pulpwood cutting. Orders for labour numbered 2,300 at the end of August, but will soon start to climb as the season advances. It is reported that one large company has opened up an employment office in Quebec City and is paying transportation of those hired to Ontario.

A second group of displaced persons has arrived and been dispersed in the camps of northern Ontario. A third group is expected early in September and will be distributed among smaller operators.



Higher demand for workers in manufacturing - From the end of July to the end of August unfilled orders for labour at N.E.S. offices in Ontario increased by almost 10,000. The increases were evident in all industrial categories, but the greatest growth in demand was from the food and kindred products and textile industries. Mounting demand for unskilled labour was especially noticeable, with the numbers of unplaced applicants continuing to decrease.

Textile industry one of principal labour shortage groups— The increases in orders for labour in textiles are chiefly due to the seasonal resumption of activity in the garment and secondary textile industries, where the need for labour declines in June and July.

To boost production and to utilize available labour resources to the full, many companies have adopted certain expedients. Some plants are running an evening shift, 6 to 11 P.M., or 7 to 12 P.M., to encourage married women to work. Some plants have been "letting out" work for housewives to do in their homes. Branches are being opened in small towns where there are numbers of girls willing to work in textile plants and more companies are making surveys for possible sites for new establishments.

Activity in iron and steel industry reflected in labour demand— Vacancies listed in the metal working occupations for skilled and unskilled workers have increased during August, with a decline in unplaced applicants. Skilled workers in the machine tool trades are readily placed; foundry workers are urgently needed in many areas (Toronto, Guelph, Port Hope, Orillia, St. Thomas), and buffers and polishers, or trainees, are in heavy demand throughout the region.

Agricultural implement plants at Brantford, Welland, Toronto and Hamilton, appear to be chronically short of labour. Turnover is high.

Construction work at high level—Throughout the region work on residential and industrial projects, on road and public utility programs, is proceeding at top speed so that as much as possible will be accomplished before winter sets in. The number of unfilled vacancies for construction workers, skilled and unskilled, at the end of August, outdistanced the number of applicants by 7 to 1.

Ontario construction contracts awarded during July were \$10 millions lower than in July, 1946. The greatest decline was in commercial construction awards, with residential a close second. On the other hand, there was an increase in industrial construction awards.

#### Brantford

Total reported employment in Brantford has increased 15 per cent during the past twelve months. Percentage gains were fairly equally divided between manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries. In the former group, the greatest absolute increases occurred in agricultural implement manufacturing, building materials, pulp and paper products, and food products.

At the end of August, 976 job vacancies were listed with the local National Employment Service office. This figure is made up of 449 openings

for men and 527 for women, and represents the largest demand for workers in three years.

When all local crops, including fruit and tobacco, have been harvested and threshing operations completed, a definite increase is expected in local labour supply. The shortage of workers, stemming from a high level of employment over a period of five years, has been aggravated by the seasonally heavy labour demand in agriculture and in the canning industry.

Currently, male labour demand is heaviest in the metal working, textile and construction trades. Women and girls are most urgently required in the food processing plants, where considerable quantities of foodstuffs are in danger of being wasted unless extra help can be found immediately.

#### Hamilton

Industrial expansion in this city, coupled with seasonal demand for help in food processing plants has created a labour shortage of almost wartime proportions here. Demand for labour has been mounting steadily since the beginning of the year and is expected to reach a peak towards the end of September, when agriculture, manufacturing, construction, and transportation are working at top capacity.

At July 1, 1947 total reported employment in the iron and steel manufacturing industry was approximately 11 per cent higher than at July 1, 1946; it is indicated that this industry could absorb even more workers if they were available.

Labour-management relations in the iron and steel industry appear favourable. The Steel Company of Canada employees were recently granted a wage increase, with two other companies immediately following suit.

The peak hydro electric power load for July topped that of any previous month, indicating continued industrial expansion.

In the male labour field the biggest demand is for unskilled labourers of all kinds, with over 1,000 currently needed. Female workers, in short supply in all industries, are particularly in demand to assist in canning the season's fruit and tomato crop. Approximately 1,200 temporary workers are needed by local and district canning factories.

#### Kingston

With the improved steel supply situation, employment conditions in heavy industry have shown a marked improvement during the past month. The Canadian Engineering and Shipbuilding Company has recalled the majority of its workers who were laid-off earlier in the year. It is expected that the present high level of employment in the shipbuilding industry will be maintained throughout the winter.

The Canadian Locomotive Company has again commenced operations after the annual holiday shut-down. This company will shortly begin work on new contracts, at which time on an additional 200 workers will be taken on.

The demand for construction labour is exceptionally high at present and in all probability will increase during the coming month. Work will start shortly on the demolition of the Collins Bay Airport buildings, for which the War Assets Corporation will require at least 100 labourers.

As students who worked on construction projects during the summer months now are returning to school, the manpower shortage continues to tighten.

#### Kitchener-Waterloo

This area has been fortunate inasmuch as it is one of the few Canadian areas which has not had to cope with any appreciable amount of unemployment since the war's end. Both employment and production have increased in the post war and unfilled vacancies have very rarely fallen below the thousand mark.

Of the eight leading industries in this area, six are not directly dependent on export trade. Nearly all production is destined for the domestic market. Many small iron and steel plants are engaged in making such articles as dies, machine tools, etc., a substantial portion of which is for the home market. In the food products industry, production is fairly evenly split - 50 per cent domestic - 50 per cent export.

However, the rubber, leather, furniture, textile, printing and publishing, beverage, and miscellaneous manufacturing industries comprise 72 per cent of total reported manufacturing employment and the major bulk of total output is consumed domestically. Of the leading commodities exported from Canada in 1946 in Kitchener, only food products, and some products of the iron and steel industry and the electrical apparatus industry appear on this list as produced in Kitchener.

In view of the very uncertain outlook for world trade at the moment the consumer market for Kitchener's produce assumes considerable importance. Because of heavy domestic consumption of local produce this city probably would not feel the effects so soon as, and remain prosperous longer than the average Canadian city. Any prolonged recession in world trade would of course eventually cripple Kitchener's industry because goods cannot be sold to people whose income had been drastically cut.

#### London

As employment in manufacturing, transportation and construction is nearing its yearly peak, labour shortages in the London area are becoming more acute. During the summer months high school and college students filled numerous positions in local industry. But their return to school in September will create vacancies which will be very difficult to fill so long as the existing tight manpower situation persists.

Among the many evidences of the sustained upward trend of industrial expansion in London during the past year are the following: total reported employment in manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries increased 12 per cent during the twelve months ending July 1, 1947; bank clearings for the first eight months of 1947 were \$21,408,836, or 12 per cent above those of the corresponding period during 1946; reports from the Hydro-Electric Power Commission indicate that the increase in the use of power during the past year has been so great that there is a strong possibility of power rationing being put into effect this fall and continuing until spring.



The construction industry appears to be more active than in 1946, and the material supply situation is much improved; 716 building permits at a value of \$2,861,085 were issued up to July 31, 1947, compared with 630 permits valued at \$2,542,095 during the first seven months of 1946.

#### Niagara Falls

The latter half of August brought numerous requests for pickers and packers to harvest the peach crop. According to local reports, this year's yield will be only slightly below the 1946 bumper crop. The three local canning factories have placed orders with the employment office for 360 female workers to assist in peach and tomato canning operations. It is anticipated that the majority of these will be recruited locally.

In the heavy manufacturing industry, the Dominion Chain Company reports that material shortages have necessitated a staff reduction involving 32 workers. Overall employment in the abrasive manufacturing industry remained fairly stable, despite a lay-off of 30 workers from the Canadian Carborundum Company.

Partially responsible for the sharp rise in job vacancies during the past month is the fact that the tourist season, instead of terminating on Labour Day weekend, as in former years, will continue until the end of September according to the bookings of larger hotels. In anticipation of an extra month's business, hotels, restaurants, etc. now require replacements for the student labour used during the summer.

#### Oshawa

General Motors of Canada, for the first time in almost two years, is hiring labour on a large scale. Originally, orders placed with the employment office called for men under thirty years of age, with a high standard of physical fitness. However, as the supply of suitable men in the group now has been almost exhausted, the company will take on men up to the age of fifty, provided that they have the required qualifications.

There are no new developments in the four-week-old strike of 230 Robson Leather Company workers here. The employees are on strike for a 25-cent-an-hour wage increase. Company officials have offered workers a 10-cent-increase.

Recent staff increases at General Motors combined with seasonal expansion in food processing, transportation and construction, are largely responsible for the drop of 600 in the number of unplaced applicants during August. Local glass manufacturing plants and foundries report that workers are leaving them to take jobs at General Motors. Fittings Ltd., manufacturers of pipe fittings, chain beltings, etc., states that its daily production has dropped from 50 to 35 tons because of losses of skilled workers to the automobile industry.

#### Peterborough

The Canadian General Electric Company in Peterborough is the largest single electrical plant in Canada. Activity in this company is of a high level. Construction is proceeding on a new half million dollar plant. The company already employs over 4,000 workers and the new plant

will increase employment when in operation. Production is at present 100 per cent for domestic consumption and maximum production and plant expansion illustrates the strength of current demand for this company's produce.

Total employment in Peterborough is very high. General Electric took on a large number of workers during the summer but are fully staffed for the present. Packing houses are fully staffed and flour and feed mills are at peak employment, except for a few jobs at Quaker Oats, which are difficult to fill because of the particular type of heavy labour required. Other manufacturing plants still require a few skilled men.

The construction industry is still booming and activity will not taper off until the weather necessitates this action. The five or six million dollars worth of construction work underway is taxing the supply of labour to the limit. This industry is still very short of even fairly competent construction labourers and tradesmen.

Private home construction is very active, but most houses are selling for from two to three times their original value. If the rent for homes necessary to cover increased building costs is not beyond the average man's means, the tight housing situation may be relieved to some extent.

Competent female office workers are in heavy demand and there remains a persistent shortage of textile workers.

#### Sault Ste. Marie

There is an urgent need for workers in this city with no local applicants available. Housing conditions are preventing any influx of workers. Lack of living accommodation is affecting the labour force in another way in that many workers are leaving this district because they cannot find accommodation for their families.

The Algoma Steel Corporation is considering employing female workers to help relieve the need for some 600 men. Hiring of female employees will start in September. Only during the wartime manpower shortage has this company made use of female labour.

Production at Algoma Steel suffered during the latter part of the month, as the heat wave forced men to leave their jobs. Except for this short break, the company is operating at capacity production, insofar as the supply of labour will permit.

The current shortage of workers is not limited to the primary iron and steel industry. Farm help is extremely scarce; loggers are being brought in from outside areas, and there are few men available to work as general mine labourers for the Algoma Ore Properties.

All experienced seamen are employed in water transportation and the local railway requires sectionmen and extra gang labourers. No applicants are available.

Thus, while there are hundreds of well-paid jobs open housing accommodation and, to some extent, a general condition of labour shortage across the country prevents these jobs from being filled.

### St. Catharines

As is usual at this time of year, labour demand increased considerably during August. With the termination of the holiday period, the majority of business establishments and industries are resuming normal operations, and students, most of whom took jobs for the summer, are returning to school, leaving many vacancies in industry. The end of August also brings a marked increase in seasonal work, such as the harvesting of fruits and vegetables, and the processing of these in canning plants, wineries, etc. These operations require a large number of temporary workers on short notice.

Pulp and paper plants and primary and secondary iron and steel manufacturers for the most part are adequately supplied with labour. Textile plants, institutions and service industries, on the other hand, report their operations seriously curtailed because of their inability to secure adequate labour.

In the construction field, there has been a noticeable reduction in the number of new houses built this summer, chiefly because of prohibitive costs of labour and material. A large volume of industrial, commercial, and institutional construction is being carried out, resulting in a continued shortage of all types of construction labour.

### Sudbury

Production levels in Inco and consequent labour demand is very closely correlated with world demand for nickel. Thus the fairly recent increased demand for labour after the initial post-war slump reflects fairly accurately an increased demand for nickel products.

If present labour demand were satisfied employment in Inco would approximate the wartime peak. The optimism with which this company views the future is reflected in a tremendous building program, involving a completely new and modern refinery, not to mention the erection of houses for present workers and expected additions to staff.

The United States provides most of the market for nickel at the present time so that the greatest bulk of production is exported. Production of nickel parallels the production of iron and steel and as primary steel producers, both in Canada and the United States, are working at capacity, Inco has a ready market.

Prior to Inco's shift to all-out war production in 1939, 1,500 articles of peacetime use had been developed in the laboratories and experimental divisions of the company, its associates and customers. The number of consumer articles which require nickel have been greatly increased since then.

Inco produces from 80 to 90 per cent of the world's supply of nickel and the vital part this metal plays in the iron and steel manufacturing industry as a whole ensures, for the present at least, high production and employment levels.

Local industrial activity interpreted in terms of actual labour demand shows an upswing in the need for workers since last month with very few men available locally. At the first of September, job vacancies numbered 2,263 compared to 1,414 at August 1. The local labour supply is such that



practically all labour requirements are filled from outside points. The largest operator in base metal mining reported a net loss of 75 men last month after 267 students left work to return to school. Most of replacements are potentially steady workers so that the mine in question is actually better off than when relying on students.

#### Toronto

The gap between labour supply and demand is growing wider. The holiday lull is over and many industries now are approaching their seasonal peak or are preparing for Fall activity. At the beginning of September, registered jobs for men exceeded applicants by almost three to one, and for women by fifteen to one.

Naturally, in view of this acute scarcity of labour, there has been great interest in the British immigrants. Most employers report that the skilled tradesmen are excellent workmen. The carpenters among them are in especially heavy demand, having proven to be splendid craftsmen. Others have taken jobs in agriculture, logging, service, printing and publishing, etc. Further British immigrants are being recruited by the Hydro Electric Power Commission, which has a representative in Scotland to acquire men for its five-year program.

The general scarcity of year-round farm workers persists; wages appear to be settling at about \$65 per month.

In manufacturing, orders for labour cannot be satisfied. Supplies of raw and semi-finished materials are more abundant, and the resulting expansion in heavy industries, foundries and non-ferrous metal firms has created a tremendous demand for skilled men. Few are available and labour turnover is high. Textile companies and clothing manufacturers are still desperately short of skilled workers. Food processing firms are very busy. The meat packing strike has affected about 1,000 workers in this area.

#### Welland

The labour situation in this area has changed greatly since the post-war slump of almost two years ago. Welland was then one of the worst labour surplus areas while its heavy war industries were converting to civilian production - now there are not nearly enough workers to meet industrial demands.

Current activity does not reflect merely the normal seasonal upswing at this time of year in the fruit belt, but is based firmly on expanding production in heavy manufacturing industries.

The only unplaced applicants available are either over-age or physically unfit. As a result, several firms are sending representatives to the Maritimes to recruit workers; among these are companies in the textile and chemical industries. Operations in all steel plants were seriously affected by the temporary exodus of men to the tobacco fields.

The supply of material cannot always keep up with this record civilian production and is a bar to further expansion in the steel and electrical goods industries - particularly for the Welland works of the John Deere Plow Co., which is already at normal capacity but could use more men if supplies permitted.

Construction companies and road engineering projects are desperately in need of workers since the building season will be closing shortly, and factories are absorbing all available men.

#### Windsor

Employment conditions in Windsor are very satisfactory and the outlook for the next three or four months is bright. Largely because of employment expansion in the automobile and automobile parts manufacturing industries, unplaced applicants listed with the Windsor employment office have dropped from 8,100 at the first of the year to 2,700 at the beginning of September.

All local plants now have resumed operations after a two week vacation period. Additional workers have been taken on at the Ford Motor Company, and still further staff expansion is planned. The latter company reports heavy labour turnover during the past two weeks with numerous workers leaving for employment in the tobacco fields, where wages average eight dollars per day.

A number of immigrants from Great Britain have been placed by the local employment office with very satisfactory results. Approximately twenty-five have arrived in Windsor to date, and all have found adequate living accommodation.

#### PRAIRIE REGION.....

Registered labour demand exceeds number of applicants—At the beginning of August there were more job applicants at N.E.S. offices than there were orders for labour. But by the end of the month, an increase in unfilled vacancies and a decline in the numbers of unplaced applicants resulted in demand exceeding supply by some 4,500. The demand for labour increased in the logging, mining, manufacturing, trade and service industries, as well as in agriculture.

Agricultural labour demand approaching peak—The demand for threshers and stokers in Manitoba was in excess of the supply, despite the transfer of harvesters from eastern Canada. However, by the end of the month arrivals were heavier. Nor were eastern harvesters arriving in Saskatchewan in sufficient quantity to meet the demand. Farm workers in areas of poor crops were transferred to areas where the harvest was heavier.

In Alberta the peak demand for labour had not been reached by the end of August. Heavy rains in the latter part of the month slowed operations in many areas. Therefore, it is expected that arrivals from eastern Canada and transfers of harvesters from Manitoba and Saskatchewan will be sufficient to cope with the labour demand.

Shortages of labour have resulted in a general upward revision of wage schedules. Many districts now are reporting wages at \$6. to \$7 per day, and in some cases as high as \$8.50, for threshers and stokers. Combine operators, as reported from Winnipeg, are receiving \$10 to \$12 per day.

Harvest work has taken labour from construction, railway maintenance, and also from some manufacturing industries. But it is also stated that substantial numbers of farm labourers went to work in the construction industry

in the spring, and because of high wages and steady work, have not returned for temporary harvest operations.

Preparations for logging season commence—The demand for cutters in northwestern Ontario continues high, although activities are still at a low level. New camps and roads are being built in many areas. A good number of displaced persons have already been placed in camps. It is anticipated that there will be a shortage of blacksmiths with horseshoeing experience and also of skilled cooks, when the cutting season gets underway.

Demand for coal miners increases—Vacancies for certificated miners continue unfilled, and most orders now are in clearance. The Prairie Region has almost two-thirds of the coal mining vacancies listed with N.E.S. offices in Canada. It is hoped that when harvesting has been completed sufficient labourers can be obtained to fill the underground and surface labouring jobs, but it will be difficult to fill the mining vacancies.

Efforts are being made to ease the housing situation in mining areas. Coal operators at Blairmore are exerting every effort to convert large houses, and erect staff houses, but this is not sufficient to cope with the demand for housing. Living accommodation is still scarce at Drumheller.

Precious metal and base metal mining also need labour—There is a continued demand for experienced machine men and for other underground workers in the gold mining industry.

From the Steep Rock Iron Mine at Atikokan comes the report that labour has been more readily available, although the need for highly skilled labour has not diminished. Production is ahead of schedule, but proposed expansion in the spring will probably increase manpower requirements.

Finish carpenters, bricklayers and plasterers required—In general, employment in the construction industry has been steady. Workers have been moved from job to job as materials were available. However, the demand for highly skilled carpenters, plasterers and bricklayers has been maintained at a high level. Many jobs lay over because such workers were unavailable. It has been said that the inability of contractors on large projects to keep to schedule is mainly due to lack of skilled tradesmen. On the other hand, small jobbing contractors have found the shortages of building materials the chief handicap.

#### Edmonton

The Swift Canadian, Canada Packers, and Burns packing plants are all strikebound, the first plant closing on August 27. Some 1,200 men are reported as out on strike. Employees of one meat packing plant, Gainers Ltd., do not belong to the union involved and are continuing to work.

During August there was a falling off in the number of available applicants, due to placement in jobs, and workers leaving the city on vacation. At this time there are more jobs than qualified applicants, but the situation will change when many of the men engaged on summer work come to the local office in search of steady employment. There will also be an influx of first jobbers from rural areas after harvesting is completed.



As was stated in a previous edition the labour force in this area is extremely flexible as men from this area go to distant parts of the country taking work in primary industry, sawmills, etc. as jobs are offered: many return when seasonal factors depress employment.

Rumours that an oil refinery would be established in the Edmonton area now have materialized. Imperial Oil has completed the purchase of the Whitehorse refinery which will be moved to Edmonton to refine oil from the very promising Leduc field. Leduc has drilled a seventh successful producer of oil.

A U.S. steel fabricating firm, Black, Sivalls and Bryson Ltd., intends to establish a plant in Edmonton requiring a minimum outlay of \$100,000. This plant will produce oil field equipment and will employ about 50 workers at the start.

#### Fort William - Port Arthur

Current news still concerns a very large number of job openings with few applicants suitable to fill these vacancies. The construction industry, which was responsible for the placing of many men since the spring, still requires about 2,500 more.

Journeyman in all trades are very difficult to obtain and, should they become available, an additional large number of helpers and labourers would be required. About 600 men are employed at the peak of the road building program. It is probable that by the end of this year the value of building permits will pass the three million dollar mark.

The demand for cutters in the lumbering industry is very high, and it is estimated that approximately 5,000 men could be absorbed at present. Some 275 woods workers arrived in the district at the beginning of the month, and others are expected. There are few capable sawyers available in this area and any experienced man can be placed. It has also been pointed out that the blacksmith trade offers a good opportunity for young men willing and capable of learning. Most of the logging camps in the district require these men and many of the present blacksmiths are old and will not be working many more seasons.

Gold mines operating in the Port Arthur district have not been able to reach their maximum production levels because of the lack of experienced miners.

Pulp and paper mills are paying the highest rate for labourers in the history of this industry but out-of-town mills continue to have difficulty in maintaining their woodyard crews. Lack of suitable housing is an important factor in this case.

Employment in manufacturing is on a much steadier footing than at this time last year and employment has apparently reached a stable level. All plants, with the exception of the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company, which is hampered by material shortages, are very busy.

Steep Rock Iron Mines Ltd. promises additional activity and employment in mining. The Chairman of the Board of Steep Rock stated that the Lakehead would definitely have its own iron ore smelting plant. This development will mean much to this area, providing badly needed year-round employment.

Winnipeg

Winnipeg now has the lowest number of unplaced applicants since the war. Total reported employment is very high with increases in manufacturing approximating employment gains in non-manufacturing industries. At April 1, 1947 manufacturing employment was approximately 5,000 below the wartime peak, but by July 1, the margin between manufacturing employment compared to the wartime peak has been reduced to slightly over 4,000.

The textile industry emerged from the war as the third most important manufacturing industry, employing at present about 5,000 workers. The only two manufacturing industries which exceed this employment are railway rolling stock manufacturing, 6,800 workers, and the foodstuffs industry, 8,200.

Winnipeg is riding on the crest of a construction boom. By the end of July the value of building permits topped twelve million dollars, which already exceeds the all-time high set in 1914. Building projects include private homes, schools, additions to a hospital, new commercial buildings, extensions to manufacturing plants, new plants, and numerous other construction jobs.

The expected shortage of general labourers announced last month has developed, as attractive pay for harvesting is taking many labourers from construction and railways. During the past months 1,168 applicants were referred to harvest work.

Some 70 Manitoba combines went to the United States but will return in time to accommodate the local harvest.

On August 27, 707 employees of the Swift Canadian Company in St. Boniface went on strike, closing the entire production and maintenance sections of the plant. As yet there is no sign of a settlement.

PACIFIC REGION.....

Small decrease in number of applicants—During the month of August, there was little change in the Pacific labour market. There were only four hundred fewer applicants at the end of the month than at the beginning, and almost all the decrease was in the numbers of female applicants.

Construction, logging and mining, remain the chief labour shortage industries.

It is reported that a shortage of women workers - skilled, or inexperienced, single young women - is evident, with small hope of early alleviation. Cannery vacancies are difficult to fill; the service trades - restaurants, hotels, dry cleaners, laundries - need help. There are some orders from retail stores for labour, as well as a considerable demand in the Vancouver area for office workers.

Heavy seasonal work force needed in Agriculture—Fruit is moving from the Okanagan. Labour demands were easily met at the beginning of the harvest since a good number of transient workers were available. The situation has gradually changed, however, and in the last quarter of the month, it has been increasingly difficult to supply labour for the numerous orders for pickers and packing-house workers.

Several thousand pickers were employed on the hop harvest of the Chilliwack area.

Import loggers for work in B.C. forest--Skilled loggers continue to be difficult to secure and a recent visit was made by agents of some of the operators to the Maritimes to recruit workers, with some experience in logging. About 300 were found.

A threatened strike in the southern interior forest area was averted on August 13, as workers announced acceptance of a 12½ cents per hour increase across the board. The conclusion of the agreement brings to an end 1947 negotiations for the three major forest areas. The B.C. logging wage scales are now higher than those in other industries in the region.

New mining development--New coal mines are being opened or projected in various parts of the region. The development of the new T'Sable River mine, on Vancouver Island, which is expected to be one of B.C.'s largest producers, will add a possible one million tons of coal yearly to the B.C. output. Whitehorse, Y.T., reports the re-opening of a coal mine in the Carmacks area which has been closed for the past decade. Survey work on coal deposits is going ahead on the Pine Pass.

Labour demand in the base metal industry is still heavy, and a considerable number of vacancies occurred when students returned to school.

All major gold mines are concerned about underground labour shortages. Placer operations have been more fortunate, and activities will carry through until freeze-up without any labour shortages being encountered.

New manufacturing export business--An initial shipment of one-man power saws, valued at \$200,000, was made by a Vancouver firm to Norway. This is the pilot order of an anticipated demand for 500 units, with the possibility of an increase at a later date. The company employs 85 men at present, and expects to increase staff as a result of the development of the new business.

### Vancouver

According to all indications, nearly five men secured employment in non-manufacturing industries for every one in manufacturing plants during the past twelve months. Construction work is playing a major role in the present favourable labour market situation, but logging and saw-mill operations, and trade and service industries have also greatly increased employment.

Seasonal work in agriculture is providing work for hundreds of men and women, many of whom are from the Prairie provinces. Most of the workers from the Prairies are unskilled, but will accept any work available. Consequently, most of them are being placed in jobs.

Orders for labour, both in logging and saw-mill operations, continue high, with skilled help at a premium. However, a recent curtailment of export contracts, plus a noticeable decrease in the amount of domestic building, has cut back the demand for lumber. Many firms are storing lumber for the first time in years. The lessened demand has cut the price of logs in the open market to the extent that small operators are feeling the pressure and may have to close their camps if wages continue to climb while the price of logs declines.

Saw-mills and vegetable canneries are operating at capacity. Fish canning plants have lessened operations because of the poor catch in northern waters.



# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

## A Key to the Area Tables

The area tables present statistical data on the labour market in 38 selected areas. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in each area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

The areas are classified according to the number of unplaced applicants registered with the local National Employment Service office. The classification is based on a ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 wage and salary workers at work.

An "unplaced applicant" at any particular moment is a person who is registered at an office of the National Employment Service who has either not been placed in a job by the employment service or for whom the employment service has had no notification of his obtaining a job on his own. It is obvious, therefore, that the number of unplaced applicants are not indicative of the total volume of unemployment in any area. In the first place, not all workers who are seeking jobs will register with N.E.S. It is probable that most of those covered by unemployment insurance will do so in order to collect unemployment insurance benefits if their period of unemployment is sufficiently long. But many workers, do not come within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Act. Second, some workers who register with N.E.S. may be wanting merely to change jobs. At the time of registration, therefore, these workers would be already employed. Third, employment service regulations provide that when a worker registers for a job another contact need not necessarily be made with him by the employment service until 30 days have passed. If the worker obtains a job on his own during this period, the employment service may not be notified of this. In other words a worker may still be counted as an unplaced applicant despite the fact that he now has a job. Finally a worker may register for work at more than one local employment office. When this occurs there is the possibility that the same person may be counted twice as an unplaced applicant.

These qualifications in the meaning of the term "unplaced applicant" should be clearly borne in mind by any person who makes use of the term. They are due to the fact that the principal function of the National Employment Service is to match jobs to workers, not to collect statistics. But they do not render such statistics useless. At present, there is no statistical information available on the total volume of unemployment by area. This being the case, the number of unplaced workers registered with a local N.E.S. office is a very important fact to consider when evaluating labour market conditions in a particular area. It is in this spirit that figures on unplaced applicants are presented in the following tables.

In order to ascertain the relative level of unplaced applicants in various local office areas, this figure has been related to an estimate of the total number of wage and salary workers at work in each area. In other words, the number of unplaced applicants is compared with the size of the particular area as measured by the number of wage and salary workers at work.

In addition these ratios have been consolidated into four groups denoting four different general labour market situations:

Group I--Areas in which there are more than 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the Mid-Thirties.

Group II--Areas in which there are between 150 and 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group is characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III--Areas in which there are from 50 to 150 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV--Areas in which there are under 50 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Favourable, in the sense that it is comparable to conditions during the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be clearly understood that the above ratio is only a general method of classifying labour market conditions as they are pictured by the local N.E.S. office. The ratio attempts to do no more than that. It attempts to do just that because it is felt that labour market conditions in a particular local employment service office are an important fact in the overall employment situation.

The area tables present additional material relative to the current demand - supply picture. Definitions of some of the terms used are given below:

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities insofar as employers do not report vacancies to the employment service. "Jobs available during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but should indicate the trend of labour demand in comparison with figures for previous periods.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the employment service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer to N.E.S.

Note: Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

Montreal includes: Iachine, Longueuil, Pointe-aux-Trembles, St. Paul  
l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney,  
Sydney Mines.

Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT SEPTEMBER 1, 1947

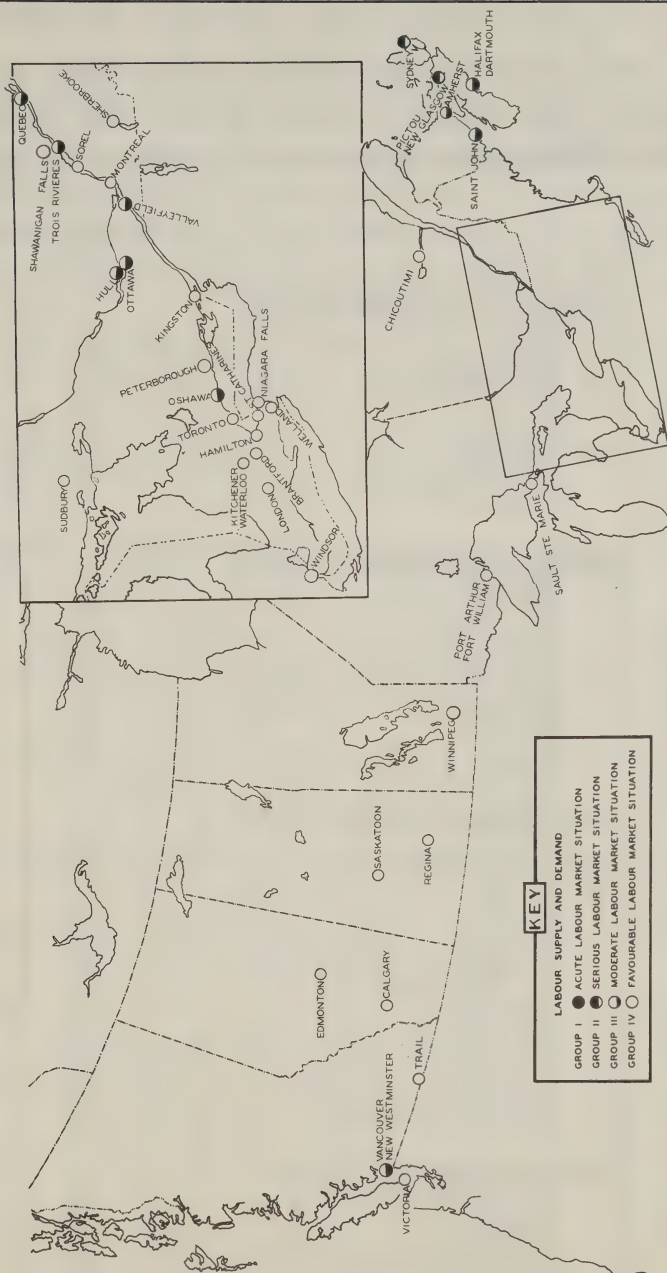




Table I--Index of Areas Analyzed in this Section

Note: The thirty-eight areas below are arranged according to the number of unplaced applicants in each as at the end of August, 1947, in descending order. Comparable ratings are also given for two previous selected dates.

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		September 1, 1947	August 1, 1947	September 1, 1946
	<u>Population of 100,000 and over</u>			
66	Quebec.....	III	III	III
70	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
75	Vancouver.....	III	III	III
73	Windsor.....	IV	III	II
73	Winnipeg.....	IV	IV	III
68	Hamilton.....	IV	IV	III
65	Montreal.....	IV	IV	IV
72	Toronto.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 50,000 to 100,000</u>			
64	Sydney.....	II	II	II
63	Halifax.....	III	III	III
64	Saint John.....	III	III	III
74	Calgary.....	IV	IV	III
68	Fort William-Port Arthur.....	IV	IV	III
74	Edmonton.....	IV	IV	IV
69	London.....	IV	IV	IV
73	Regina.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 25,000 to 50,000</u>			
65	Hull.....	III	III	II
67	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
70	Oshawa.....	III	III	II
69	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
75	Victoria.....	IV	IV	IV
74	Saskatoon.....	IV	IV	IV
71	St. Catharines.....	IV	IV	IV
72	Sudbury.....	IV	IV	IV
71	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
68	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
66	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
69	Kitchener-Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of under 25,000</u>			
64	New Glasgow-Pictou.....	II	II	I
63	Amherst.....	III	III	III
67	Valleyfield.....	III	III	I
66	Shawinigan Falls.....	IV	IV	III
67	Sorel.....	IV	IV	III
65	Chicoutimi.....	IV	IV	III
72	Welland.....	IV	IV	III
75	Trail.....	IV	IV	IV
70	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	IV
71	Sault Ste. Marie.....	IV	IV	III

Item	Canada			Amherst			Halifax		
	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)....	28	33	52	130	111	143	73	82	71
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month....	91,961	95,767	109,124	26	40	83	1,022	967	1,530
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	134,272	127,421	162,487	48	74	88	1,377	1,345	1,890
3. Total jobs available during month.....	226,233	223,188	271,611	74	114	171	2,399	2,312	3,420
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	61,357	65,674	70,193	42	71	84	783	664	910
% casual placements.....	11.2	12.3	7.5	-	-	-	7.4	9.2	2.1
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	110,839	91,961	139,554	12	26	33	943	1,022	1,429
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month....	98,967	114,493	160,262	333	418	508	3,127	3,457	2,793
% female.....	29.9	29.3	21.5	15.3	12.9	23.2	16.5	17.9	16.3
% veterans.....	22.7	21.9	34.2	27.9	21.1	55.9	35.6	36.5	37.0
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	15.4	14.2	23.6	21.9	15.6	52.6	27.5	27.9	15.2
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales....	18.2	17.6	17.2	6.0	8.3	16.4	13.7	15.5	17.8
% service & other.....	13.4	12.4	7.8	1.4	2.7	5.1	15.5	13.2	12.6
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	29.5	29.4	32.5	54.9	49.2	40.3	39.6	40.0	37.8
% unskilled.....	38.9	40.6	42.5	37.7	39.8	38.2	31.2	31.3	31.8
2. Applicants registered during month....	105,840	114,072	145,482	197	158	179	1,652	1,697	2,385
3. Total workers available during month....	204,807	228,565	305,744	530	576	687	4,779	5,154	5,178
% referred.....	46.6	44.0	35.4	13.2	15.5	16.6	27.3	25.5	29.3
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month....	85,912	98,967	144,619	390	333	414	2,764	3,127	2,986
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	3,072	3,013	2,756	-	3,000	2,900	-	38,100	41,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	36.13	32.64	-	-	-	-	33.00	29.51

Note:—Figures for Canada re wage and salary workers are in thousands.

(x) Figures subject to revision.

Item	New Glasgow & Pictou			Sydney			Saint John		
	Aug.(x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug.(x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug.(x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	213	218	355	185	202	257	65	83	88
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled Vacancies, first of month...	82	65	112	92	72	410	669	576	788
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	531	779	593	820	756	842	965	942	974
3. Total jobs available during month...	613	844	705	912	828	1,252	1,634	1,518	1,762
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	496	706	540	733	707	616	590	562	554
% casual placements.....	3.8	4.8	8.0	10.0	14.9	10.4	9.2	14.4	2.7
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month....	44	82	60	138	92	402	608	669	728
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.	1,506	1,799	2,525	3,600	4,352	4,285	2,240	1,356	2,339
% female.....	11.8	11.4	8.2	14.4	12.4	11.2	6.4	8.9	6.9
% veterans.....	46.8	39.5	46.5	33.0	33.1	56.8	42.3	56.5	51.8
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.	40.6	33.6	42.9	30.0	30.3	50.9	33.3	43.4	38.6
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales...	6.4	5.9	7.3	6.7	7.3	9.2	12.8	13.2	17.6
% service & other.....	10.5	7.5	3.4	17.4	14.3	6.2	19.8	17.6	9.0
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	45.1	49.7	53.3	29.0	34.0	38.9	29.0	32.4	32.4
% unskilled.....	38.0	36.9	36.0	46.9	44.4	45.7	38.4	36.8	41.0
2. Applicants registered during month...	788	884	1,040	1,248	1,101	1,369	1,181	1,712	1,376
3. Total workers available during month	2,294	2,683	3,565	4,848	5,453	5,654	3,421	3,648	3,715
% referred.....	36.3	41.6	18.4	24.8	19.8	15.1	28.5	32.0	30.9
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month....	1,472	1,506	2,553	3,296	3,600	4,211	1,736	2,240	2,206
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	6,900	7,200	-	17,800	16,400	-	26,900	25,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31.52	29.08

(x) Figures subject to revision.



Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	26	21	108	105	123	154	16	17	29
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month...	777	386	1,318	343	259	164	13,841	14,400	19,371
2. Vacancies notified during month....	864	1,700	1,481	381	321	396	15,070	12,306	13,734
3. Total jobs available during month....	1,641	2,086	2,799	724	580	560	28,911	26,706	33,105
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	388	434	239	160	160	132	6,152	5,703	4,990
% casual placements.....	-	-	-	-	3.8	-	9.8	9.2	6.7
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	676	777	979	257	343	240	16,044	13,841	19,486
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month..	199	257	922	1,194	1,302	1,293	8,586	10,441	16,099
% female.....	48.2	47.5	30.5	48.3	43.1	16.1	20.8	21.9	14.1
% veterans.....	6.5	5.8	8.7	12.8	13.7	37.4	18.2	14.0	22.0
% veterans unemployed 15 days or more	4.0	3.1	7.6	12.3	11.9	32.5	12.9	7.5	11.4
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales...	16.4	25.2	17.5	16.8	16.7	12.7	32.4	31.3	24.3
% service & other.....	10.6	14.1	7.0	11.9	7.0	8.1	19.7	15.9	8.0
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	23.0	26.6	34.4	30.6	36.3	43.7	23.2	25.1	22.4
% unskilled.....	50.0	34.1	41.1	40.7	40.0	35.5	24.7	27.7	45.3
2. Applicants registered during month...	311	293	801	626	587	915	10,573	10,063	18,203
3. Total workers available during month.	510	550	1,723	1,820	1,889	2,208	19,159	20,504	34,302
% referred.....	48.6	49.6	20.9	17.9	19.1	11.7	50.9	51.1	31.2
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month....	246	199	789	1,023	1,194	1,464	7,916	8,586	13,513
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	9,500	7,300	-	9,700	9,500	-	499,200	466,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34.70	31.96

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	65	73	125			88	7	10	14
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month...	1,687	1,845	1,637	23	27	6	285	364	425
2. Vacancies notified during month...	2,777	2,544	2,450	272	262	78	728	591	549
3. Total jobs available during month...	4,464	4,389	4,087	295	289	84	1,013	955	974
4. Jobs filled by referral...	1,264	1,413	1,168	196	190	47	341	378	277
% casual placements...	=	0.4	0.4	=	=	=	9.7	7.1	8.3
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month...	2,123	1,687	1,612	62	23	27	383	285	382
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.	5,242	7,108	9,237	545	682	997	202	211	263
% female...	43.5	34.3	37.3	60.9	51.5	37.1	32.7	32.7	20.5
% veterans...	10.5	9.6	18.5	2.9	4.0	12.5	10.4	15.6	35.4
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	8.3	7.1	14.7	2.6	2.8	7.7	5.0	7.6	16.0
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales...	20.1	15.0	19.0	9.5	8.5	6.9	17.4	21.8	23.9
% service & other...	12.8	10.0	8.2	9.1	6.0	2.7	21.4	22.5	10.1
% skilled & semi-skilled...	39.3	45.9	34.7	41.7	45.3	32.5	20.4	30.3	23.4
% unskilled...	27.8	29.1	38.1	39.7	40.2	57.9	40.8	25.4	42.6
2. Applicants registered during month...	3,273	3,207	3,849	396	397	323	444	600	468
3. Total workers available during month	8,515	10,315	13,086	941	1,079	1,320	646	811	731
% referred...	34.5	29.6	16.7	30.8	28.0	4.8	82.7	75.6	60.1
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month...	4,720	5,242	8,393	553	545	970	144	202	271
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	=	72,300	66,900	=	13,400	11,000	=	20,100	19,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	=	30.40	28.29	=	=	=	=	28.62	27.51

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Sorel			Three Rivers			Valleyfield		
	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	34	26	76	91	107	81	73	64	489(xx)
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month...	131	112	89	256	254	180	228	363	329
2. Vacancies notified during month....	294	274	337	400	438	614	302	356	160
3. Total jobs available during month...	425	386	426	656	692	794	530	719	489
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	196	143	74	152	180	234	179	198	142
% casual placements.....	-	-	-	13	0.5	-	-	-	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month....	188	131	50	190	256	140	227	228	28
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.	263	239	754	4,038	4,139	2,759	417	328	2,914
% female.....	19.8	20.5	19.5	15.0	15.2	26.4	50.1	47.0	32.2
% veterans.....	10.3	6.3	9.3	8.8	10.2	14.1	7.7	8.8	8.1
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	5.3	4.2	8.5	8.0	8.6	9.8	4.8	6.7	6.7
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales..	13.6	15.2	10.7	7.1	5.8	9.4	6.8	10.4	4.8
% service & other.....	10.5	12.0	5.4	3.9	8.1	5.7	13.9	13.2	3.2
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	53.5	49.2	65.4	31.1	29.6	31.6	30.7	29.3	47.8
% unskilled.....	22.4	23.6	18.5	57.9	56.5	53.3	48.6	47.1	44.2
2. Applicants registered during month..	373	311	446	502	600	1,288	401	465	349
3. Total workers available during month	636	550	1,200	4,540	4,739	4,047	818	793	3,263
% referred.....	37.7	36.4	10.3	10.3	11.0	9.0	28.7	36.4	5.9
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month...	342	263	616	3,462	4,038	2,974	477	417	1,124
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	10,000	8,100	-	37,900	36,900	-	6,500	2,300(xx)
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	35.06	32.16	-	-	-

(x) Figures subject to revision.

(xx) About 3,000 workers were on strike.





Item	Kingston			Kitchener-Waterloo			London		
	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	40	43	31	3	3	9	16	20	24
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	244	244	422	1,156	1,286	891	1,476	1,636	1,676
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	780	577	908	1,109	1,055	1,037	2,067	1,730	2,502
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,024	821	1,330	2,265	2,341	1,928	3,543	3,566	4,178
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	456	440	570	325	375	356	939	1,072	1,160
% casual placements.....	2.9	1.6	0.2	5.2	0.8	2.5	11.7	11.8	15.0
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	341	244	342	1,355	1,156	799	1,969	1,476	1,603
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	772	747	579	122	175	323	719	771	888
% female.....	23.1	23.4	25.9	10.7	8.6	10.5	29.5	33.9	21.3
% veterans.....	28.9	32.5	33.2	17.2	15.4	35.6	19.9	25.0	43.4
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more..	25.8	29.0	27.8	4.9	8.0	9.9	8.5	10.0	23.4
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	9.6	10.0	8.8	22.7	27.5	25.3	18.3	19.0	19.4
% service & other.....	7.7	7.9	7.5	7.2	5.6	6.2	16.3	13.1	13.2
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	49.8	42.8	28.9	23.7	18.1	27.0	19.1	21.0	12.9
% unskilled.....	32.9	39.3	54.8	46.4	48.8	41.5	46.3	46.9	54.5
2. Applicants registered during month.....	735	909	807	356	418	527	1,210	1,526	1,875
3. Total workers available during month...	1,507	1,656	1,386	478	593	850	1,929	2,297	2,733
% referred.....	48.7	40.8	67.9	90.4	87.9	68.6	79.5	74.8	66.7
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	717	772	532	111	122	267	570	719	764
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	17,900	17,400	-	38,800	29,000	-	35,600	32,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	35.37	30.54	-	34.55	30.93

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	Aug.(x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug.(x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug.(x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)	17	18	23	74	131	207	57	66	57
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month..	313	452	1,217	421	507	546	1,482	1,413	1,459
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	767	414	848	719	932	645	2,445	2,326	2,401
3. Total jobs available during month...	1,080	866	2,065	1,140	1,439	1,191	3,927	3,739	3,860
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	204	263	488	421	642	347	812	991	931
% casual placements.....	2.0	2.7	0.4	2.4	1.6	0.6	15.8	14.8	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month....	705	313	1,058	468	421	402	1,856	1,482	1,656
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.	329	374	489	2,450	1,685	2,297	4,105	4,343	3,486
% female.....	23.7	31.0	29.4	32.2	47.1	40.3	56.1	57.1	31.0
% veterans.....	14.3	15.2	21.1	10.0	55.8	22.7	18.3	18.8	44.2
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	7.0	7.0	12.5	5.9	7.1	13.0	15.1	15.4	28.1
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales..	9.5	11.6	16.2	5.9	6.8	10.3	34.7	32.0	28.5
% service & other.....	22.0	16.7	17.4	6.1	4.7	3.4	10.7	8.9	7.0
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	26.0	22.5	26.7	19.3	33.8	19.0	22.6	24.0	21.6
% unskilled.....	42.5	49.2	39.7	68.7	54.7	67.3	32.0	35.1	42.9
2. Applicants registered during month..	365	415	577	1,083	2,001	2,811	2,094	2,604	3,308
3. Total workers available during month	694	789	1,066	3,533	3,686	5,108	6,199	6,947	6,794
% referred.....	53.2	55.6	66.8	19.0	26.0	12.4	26.1	28.6	42.7
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month....	316	329	389	1,381	2,450	3,726	3,543	4,105	3,395
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	18,800	17,100	-	18,700	18,000	-	62,400	60,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51.79	28.80

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Peterborough			St. Catharines			Sault Ste. Marie		
	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	13	9	20	23	21	45	17	17	95
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month...	241	327	386	522	504	1,198	1,201	896	1,285
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	626	332	793	1,033	928	1,868	530	1,446	593
3. Total jobs available during month....	867	659	1,179	1,555	1,432	2,066	1,731	2,342	1,878
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	412	293	566	443	494	620	438	271	223
% casual placements.....	-	-	-	0.5	6.3	0.3	-	-	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	293	241	408	672	522	1,594	1,152	1,201	816
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month..	214	286	489	670	625	1,548	284	330	797
% female.....	9.8	10.8	11.0	40.0	31.8	45.9	83.5	81.9	32.7
% veterans.....	59.8	28.3	40.7	24.6	14.1	22.9	3.5	3.0	6.3
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	26.6	17.8	23.9	14.2	8.2	14.4	2.1	1.2	4.3
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales...	8.0	8.6	14.3	10.6	15.5	16.1	14.0	7.9	5.8
% service & other.....	1.7	2.0	2.5	7.4	8.9	4.1	32.5	11.8	4.7
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	20.5	18.4	20.9	30.8	20.0	39.1	25.6	9.5	59.1
% unskilled.....	69.8	71.0	62.3	51.2	55.6	40.7	27.9	70.8	30.4
2. Applicants registered during month...	764	443	814	835	1,013	1,014	524	401	513
3. Total workers available during month..	978	729	1,303	1,505	1,638	2,562	808	731	1,310
% referred.....	85.1	71.3	70.5	47.8	48.5	36.3	49.5	48.2	21.3
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month....	327	214	470	706	670	1,283	295	284	947
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	25,000	23,000	-	31,300	28,800	-	17,100	10,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)	47	56	166	36	45	51	13	19	24
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month...	286	267	318	3,250	3,479	3,902	722	797	939
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,843	1,290	1,259	7,772	6,530	9,672	1,903	1,989	2,467
3. Total jobs available during month....	2,129	1,557	1,577	11,022	1,009	12,574	2,625	2,786	3,406
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	1,105	931	934	4,853	4,331	4,961	1,121	1,495	1,542
% casual placements.....	20.3	21.9	12.5	27.5	31.1	33.9	27.1	40.4	22.7
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	529	286	258	4,330	3,250	4,830	715	722	1,138
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month..	3,162	3,168	7,947	6,370	7,519	10,168	619	934	1,303
% female.....	55.4	53.9	25.0	37.0	35.4	22.5	45.7	32.4	33.6
% veterans.....	16.3	16.9	27.5	23.1	21.4	39.7	20.4	17.7	24.4
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	7.7	9.2	24.6	14.3	13.6	25.4	18.1	16.1	22.0
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales...	16.2	17.7	9.0	25.4	20.7	22.1	28.3	20.5	14.4
% service & other.....	13.9	11.4	3.6	12.5	11.9	8.2	12.8	10.6	9.5
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	39.7	36.7	30.0	28.3	24.9	28.0	17.8	21.4	20.5
% unskilled.....	30.2	34.2	57.4	33.8	42.5	41.7	41.1	47.5	55.6
2. Applicants registered during month...	2,253	2,347	5,253	7,566	8,007	7,992	1,692	1,916	2,143
3. Total workers available during month	5,415	5,515	13,200	13,936	15,526	18,160	2,311	2,850	3,446
% referred.....	37.7	29.7	10.6	50.1	40.4	41.6	79.7	81.5	67.7
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month....	2,662	3,162	8,185	5,033	6,370	7,010	425	619	711
Employment:									
1. wage and salary workers, first of month	-	56,900	49,400	-	140,900	138,000	-	33,100	29,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	43.17	37.03	-	33.59	30.53	-	32.04	29.77

x Figures subject to revision



Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug. (x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)....	25	26	23	28	34	52	22	25	30
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month....	599	831	916	975	1,018	1,141	1,270	1,407	1,854
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,180	1,467	1,486	3,034	3,359	3,262	3,052	3,450	4,121
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,779	2,298	2,402	4,009	4,377	4,403	4,322	4,857	5,975
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	637	883	810	1,984	2,490	1,971	1,994	2,473	2,338
% casual placements.....	15.4	26.0	13.6	17.7	39.2	15.3	17.7	19.0	20.0
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	628	599	899	1,188	975	1,224	1,449	1,270	2,174
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month..	1,139	1,643	1,592	1,720	2,068	2,565	1,824	2,263	2,855
% female.....	37.4	40.7	33.0	31.3	30.6	21.1	23.1	23.7	17.1
% veterans.....	26.5	20.8	33.2	30.4	29.8	42.3	26.2	22.8	46.9
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	16.5	10.7	22.9	19.1	17.7	29.6	11.5	8.0	20.7
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales...	17.5	16.6	17.3	27.2	24.8	18.6	23.6	23.1	19.5
% service & other.....	27.1	22.9	11.8	33.3	24.1	10.7	23.1	17.9	16.1
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	24.8	27.2	23.2	29.2	29.5	29.4	28.7	25.3	24.9
% unskilled.....	30.6	33.3	47.7	10.3	21.6	41.3	24.6	33.7	39.5
2. Applicants registered during month...	1,378	1,626	1,671	2,706	3,319	3,267	3,426	4,264	3,821
3. Total workers available during month.	2,567	3,269	3,263	4,426	5,357	5,832	5,250	6,527	6,676
% referred.....	49.9	44.4	39.3	63.9	63.2	50.2	58.9	57.8	50.4
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month....	1,149	1,189	1,078	1,428	1,720	2,519	1,604	1,824	2,143
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	45,400	46,000	-	51,300	48,800	-	74,200	71,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	32.16	29.05	-	34.49	32.09	-	33.38	30.62

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Trail			Vancouver			Victoria		
	Aug.(x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug.(x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946	Aug.(x) 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	17	18	30	51	51	92	33	36	43
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month...	249	191	258	4,692	3,740	5,350	621	615	1,089
2. Vacancies notified during month....	177	439	356	9,757	11,637	13,535	1,143	1,130	2,187
3. Total jobs available during month...	426	630	614	14,449	15,372	18,885	1,764	1,745	3,276
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	212	336	291	4,964	5,634	5,242	565	697	1,071
% casual placements.....	2.4	-	-	14.8	13.6	14.3	15.0	22.1	8.7
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month....	194	249	259	4,299	4,692	6,501	754	621	1,298
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.	178	241	348	10,576	11,106	18,305	1,725	1,832	2,050
% female.....	55.6	49.0	52.9	26.3	25.9	15.8	14.6	18.4	16.0
% veterans.....	24.2	15.4	22.4	32.4	31.4	37.4	27.8	32.6	38.9
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	11.2	5.8	13.5	22.4	19.2	25.4	18.1	23.3	27.9
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales..	3.6	2.4	5.5	19.7	19.3	16.4	13.7	15.0	17.5
% service & other.....	12.0	8.1	9.1	15.3	14.9	6.9	9.9	9.6	6.7
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	38.6	23.6	26.2	25.5	25.4	39.4	23.3	23.9	28.9
% unskilled.....	45.8	65.9	59.2	39.5	40.4	37.3	53.1	51.5	46.9
2. Applicants registered during month...	281	347	332	11,898	12,276	13,836	1,154	1,325	1,830
3. Total workers available during month	459	588	680	22,474	23,382	32,141	2,879	3,157	3,880
% referred.....	50.5	49.7	43.7	38.6	36.9	26.0	31.1	35.4	29.7
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month...	167	178	267	10,487	10,576	16,439	1,560	1,725	1,975
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	9,700	8,900	-	207,600	179,300	-	47,400	45,700
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	36.15	33.03	-	36.05	31.70

x Figures subject to revision.









A N A D I A N

# LABOUR MARKET

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR,  
RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH

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C34

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

DEPT. OF POLITICAL ECONOMY 1947  
October

BAROMETRICS FILE " "

FEATURE ARTICLE.....

Government  
Publications

Organized Migration of Workers  
to meet  
Industrial Needs

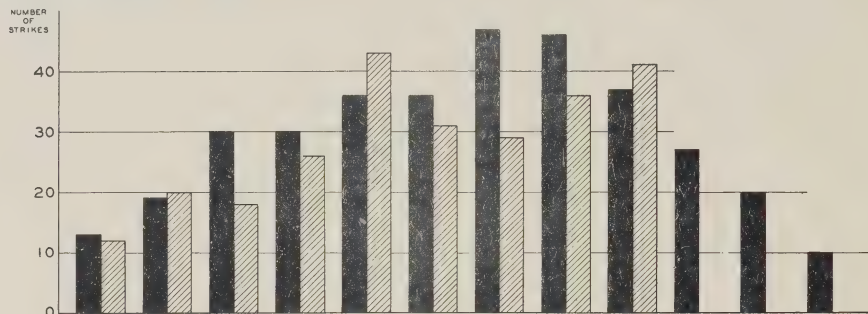
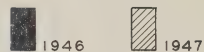
Volume 3

Number 9

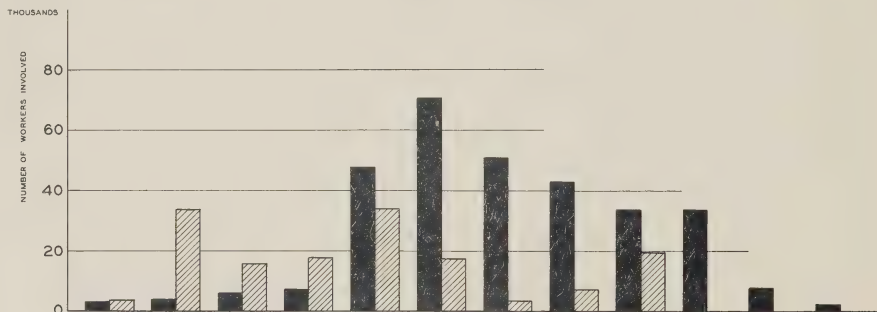


# STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS

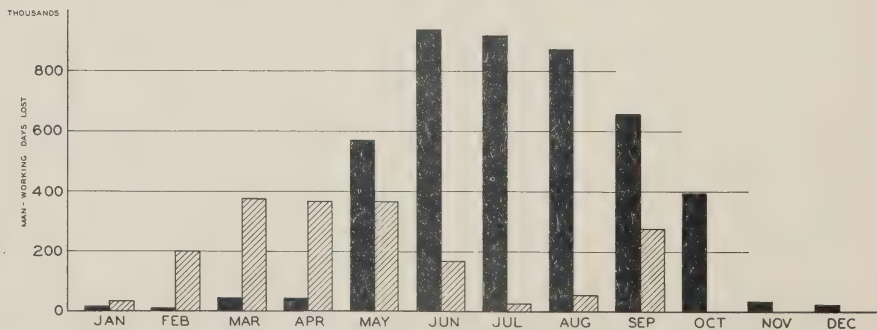
ALTHOUGH IN THE FIRST 9 MONTHS OF 1947 THERE WERE ONLY ABOUT 13 % FEWER STRIKES THAN IN THE SAME PERIOD OF 1946.....



THERE HAVE BEEN ABOUT 55 % FEWER WORKERS INVOLVED.....



AND ABOUT 54 % FEWER MAN-DAYS LOST.....



# THE LABOUR MARKET IN BRIEF.....

Employment in Canada had passed the five million mark, an all-time high, as early as mid-August of this year. Since a seasonal peak is usually reached near the beginning of October, it is likely that at least 5,100,000 Canadians had jobs at that date. At mid-August, only 73,000 workers were without jobs. In other words, unemployment amounted to only 1.4 per cent of the labour force! Employers' forecasts continue to indicate that these high levels of employment will be maintained at least until early in the new year.

The general shortage of labour reported from all sections of Canada will seriously hamper any further expansion of employment and production. Indicative of this shortage is the fact that on October 16 Employment Service offices reported an excess of unfilled vacancies over unplaced applicants of 10,000. This surplus of jobs is not expected to disappear until seasonal inactivity is well underway. Even then, a mere excess of applicants over jobs does not necessarily mean the end of the labour shortage, since casual labour, older workers, and those passing from one job to another bulk large in the count of unplaced applicants.

Immigration does offer some solution to the labour shortage, and immigration plans have been speeded up by the Federal government.

Domestic demand has been sustained by a combination of high employment and rising consumer incomes. The July estimate of labour income is \$512,000,000 20 per cent above that for the same month last year. The inflationary pressures inherent in this situation account in part for the rising prices. The Federal government has continued with its policy of gradual decontrol of prices and the lifting of subsidies. Removal of the ceiling on

meats at the end of October, and the withdrawal of subsidies on feed grains, followed a similar policy on milk and bread in September. A downward readjustment of prices, therefore, is not expected in the near future.

Labour relations have not been influenced by rising prices as much as had been feared. The only major strike of the summer and fall of 1947, that in the meat packing industry, had ended, and most of the men returned to work, by the end of October. But prices continue to rise, and it is not impossible that some unions will demand re-negotiation of the wage clauses in their contracts. In addition, the packing-house strike has pointed up an interesting situation, a continued drive for industry-wide bargaining, in contrast with the wide variety in provincial labour laws. Now that the centralizing influence of the Federal government has been removed, the rapid settlement of labour disputes depends more than ever on good relations between labour and management.

Foreign demand continues to support Canadian production and employment, despite a decline in the volume of Canadian exports in August from the July level. The calling of a special Congress by President Truman to consider stop-gap aid to Europe leaves little doubt that some sort of assistance will be forthcoming to sustain European demand. The real problem for Canada, as for the rest of the world, may arise out of the form which this aid to Europe will take.

The successful conclusion of the Geneva Trade Conference has given reason for hope concerning the release of world trade from the restrictive barriers which plagued it in the 1930's. Insofar as the Geneva agreements help to increase world trade, Canada as a world trading nation cannot but benefit through increased production and employment.

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## ORGANIZED MIGRATION OF WORKERS TO MEET INDUSTRIAL NEEDS

To what extent have labour shortages in Canada since the war ended been eased by organized immigration schemes and interprovincial migrations of workers? The answer to this question requires a careful study of the major organized movements that have occurred and an analysis of their effect on the Canadian labour market. Such is the purpose of this article.

A cursory glance at the relatively small number of workers involved in such movements suggests that their effect on the general scarcity of labour in Canada would not likely have been extensive, as yet. The movement of workers from Nova Scotia to other provinces involved about 2,500 persons, while immigration during the first seven months of 1947 accounted for approximately 10,000 men and 12,000 women. A large proportion of the female immigrants were housewives and thus were not available for employment. Immigration has been stepped up greatly since the end of July 1947, but even with this impetus it is doubtful if the labour force will be increased by one per cent by this means during 1947.

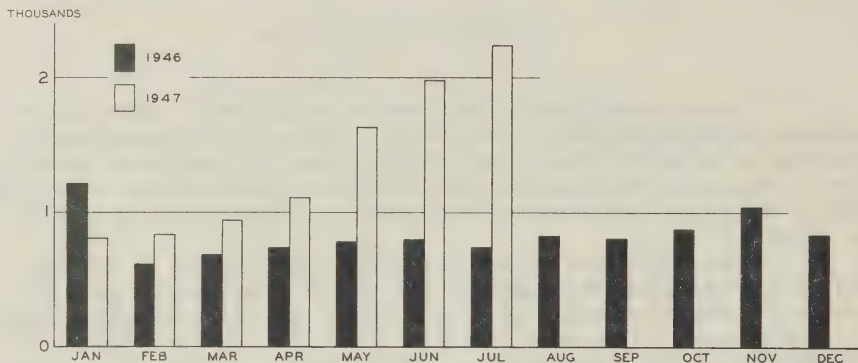
A closer analysis, however, reveals that organized movements of workers have appreciably affected the labour scene in some industries. In agriculture, for example, the demand for workers has subsided considerably as a direct result of immigration. Farmers, who in the immediate post-war period were willing to accept any available help, are now requesting only experienced and competent workers. In logging, too, the proposed immigration of woodsmen to Ontario will ease recruiting problems in that province, and thus will tend to lessen the current drain of workers from Quebec and the Prairie provinces.

The industries to which immigrant workers are directed is, of course, an important factor in determining their ultimate effect on labour shortages. The increased employment of workers in the basic industries, for instance, where labour needs are great, will stimulate expansion all along the line in dependent industries. Absorption in secondary and tertiary industries, on the other hand, merely fills a vacancy. The present trend, therefore, is towards "feeding" the primary or basic industries of Canada. As a result, the long-run effect will be the creation of a greater number of jobs in the country.

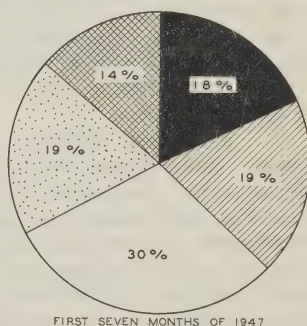
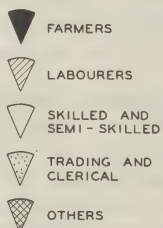
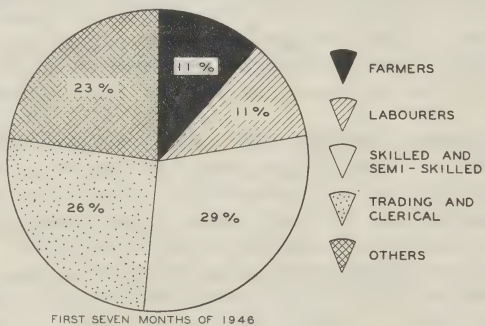
The geographical distribution of immigrant workers is also important. If they tend to settle in labour shortage areas, rather than those where surpluses of labour exist, their effect on the general shortage of labour will be more noticeable. At present, the attractive climatic conditions of British Columbia are drawing a disproportionate number of workers into that province. Fifteen per cent of recorded immigration to

# IMMIGRATION OF ADULT MALES TO CANADA.....

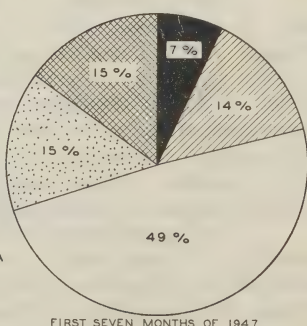
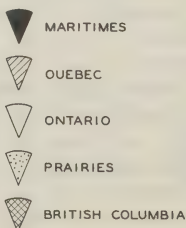
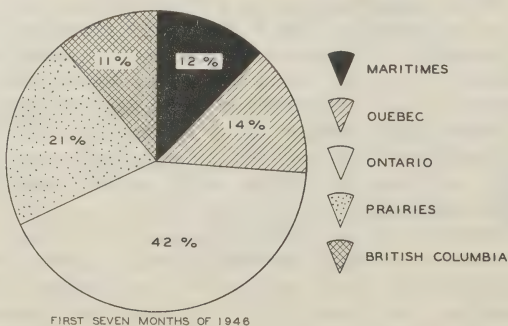
## HOW MANY.....



## WHO THEY WERE.....



## WHERE THEY WENT.....<sup>(1)</sup>



SOURCE: IMMIGRATION BRANCH,  
DEPT. OF MINES AND RESOURCES

(1) INCLUDES WOMEN AND CHILDREN, DATA FOR MALES  
ONLY NOT AVAILABLE, BUT DISTRIBUTION  
VERY SIMILAR.

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - M-3-H.1

Canada during 1947, for example, was to British Columbia, while, at the latest date, only 6 per cent of job vacancies recorded at National Employment Service offices were registered in that province. Extensive immigration to British Columbia may result in an aggravation of the existing unemployment problem in the major urban centres of the province, unless immigrants are willing to accept jobs in rural districts.

### Developments in the Labour Market

The complexities of reconversion prevented a true evaluation of the labour market during the major part of 1946. The structure of the labour force was undergoing continuous and extensive changes due to demobilization and the withdrawal and redistribution of war workers. The demand for workers was obscure—difficulties of reconversion continually held employment in check. In addition, the flow of essential materials was uncertain.

By the end of 1946, labour market conditions had become more stable. The major shifts within the labour force were complete, and general expansion in employment was no longer deterred by immediate reconversion difficulties. It had become apparent that Canada could not only absorb its present supply of manpower but could also provide jobs for a considerable number of additional workers. A tremendous demand for goods, both in the foreign and domestic market, induced rapid expansion in production, but scarcities of labour in many industries kept activity below capacity.

The prospect of increasing employment by utilizing workers not presently in the labour force was slim. In fact, many workers had already withdrawn from the labour force since the war's end, and this movement, especially as regards women, would likely continue as housing became more plentiful. It seemed evident that, if the growing need for workers was to be met, local manpower resources would have to be supplemented from sources outside the country.

The first means of augmenting the existing work-force was by transferring surplus workers from localized areas of unemployment. The Cape Breton area of Nova Scotia, which had experienced continuous unemployment since the end of the war, offered such a potential source of labour.

Immigration was also being put forward by many employers and other groups as a means of increasing the labour force. It is estimated that approximately 40,000 immigrants could be absorbed into permanent employment over the next few years, provided that conditions of high employment continue to prevail.

### Movement of Workers from Nova Scotia

The first attempt at drawing off surplus workers from Nova Scotia came as a natural consequence of National Employment Service activities. The Employment Service, being organized on a national basis, endeavored to dovetail the heavy demand for labour in Central Canada with the large supply of workers in the Maritimes. Employment officials, however, were early confronted with the time-worn problem of labour immobility. As Adam Smith stated in The Wealth of Nations "it appears evidently, from experience, that man is, of all luggage, the most difficult to be transported". In addition, the Dominion-wide shortage of housing tended to freeze workers to their immediate localities.

Industries in Ontario and Quebec, however, began to take steps to speed up the movement. Employers in Central Canada had largely depleted the



local supply of workers by early 1946 and labour needs were still mounting rapidly. Individual employers, therefore, began to send representatives to recruit workers in the Cape Breton and New Glasgow areas, and arrangements were made for transportation and housing.

Despite this spontaneous exit of workers, unemployment grew steadily worse in Nova Scotia while elsewhere in Canada the employment situation was gradually brightening. Recognizing the seriousness of the situation, the Dominion Government in November, 1946, authorized the payment of transportation costs for 1,000 single unemployed men to be moved from the Sydney-Glace Bay area to Ontario and Quebec mining areas. This provision was later extended to cover all single unemployed persons, or married persons willing to migrate without their families. The order holds good for the remainder of 1947 and may require to be extended into 1948.

The organized movement of workers took definite shape in the early months of 1947. A strict medical examination requirement had debarred many workers from mining employment, but as more industries became included under the project the movement greatly increased in volume. The peak in migration occurred during May and June when more than 700 were moved between May 18 and June 18. There had been approximately 7,000 persons interviewed for transference at October 7, 1947. Of these, 2,496 (2,219 men and 277 women) had been dispatched under the movement.

This organized transfer set the pace for the spontaneous movement of many additional workers. It was estimated that several thousand persons left the depressed areas of the Maritimes "on their own" during the early months of 1947.

### Immigration

Steps were taken early in 1947 to ease restrictions against persons entering the country. A liberal interpretation was applied to existing immigration laws in contrast to the very restrictive application during the Thirties. In addition, classes of admissible persons were broadened to include workers for primary industries, a wider range of relatives, and a quota of displaced persons from European camps.

Persons who presently can enter Canada may be classified under four broad headings:

1. British subjects and United States citizens who can support themselves until employment is secured.
2. European relatives, fiances and fiancées of persons residing in Canada.
3. Persons entering to engage in assured employment in primary industry or agriculturists having sufficient means to farm.
4. A quota of displaced persons.

The immigration project of Premier Drew of Ontario falls into the first category. The plan, as indicated by the material at hand, is scheduled to bring 7,000 immigrants from the United Kingdom at a rate of approximately 250 per week. At September 29, 1947, immigration under this program was reported to have reached the 2,000 mark. The workers brought in under this plan meet the needs of a large number of private concerns for special types of craftsmen and key personnel.

The second group would tend to cover the movement of individuals rather than any large block movement. In general, immigration under this heading would not greatly affect the labour market.

Under the third heading, two shiploads of Dutch and Belgian workers have already been brought over for employment on Canadian farms. The first ship docked early in June, followed by a second in September. It would appear from the sources available that approximately 1,750 persons were involved in these movements.

The program for bringing in displaced persons has been undertaken by the Dominion Government. At the end of September, approval had been given to import 16,500 D.P.'s, 2,200 of whom had already arrived. Arrangements had been completed for the transportation of a minimum of 5,000 during the remainder of 1947.

The extent of immediate immigration has been largely determined by the availability of transportation. During July, passage was provided for approximately 5,000 persons--the rate was increased somewhat during the following months due to the greater use of air services. Immigration for the first seven months of 1947, as reported by the Immigration Branch, totalled 26,522 persons (9,605 men and 11,612 women and 5,305 children).

The most meaningful analysis of the labour shortage situation in relation to organized movements of labour must be on an industrial basis. The following, therefore, presents a brief synopsis of labour shortages in main industrial groups and the extent to which movement of workers has affected the situation to date.

Agriculture--The extreme seasonality of the work tends to obscure the manpower situation in agriculture. During peak activity, some 300,000 additional workers are required who could not be supported by the industry on a year-round basis. Thus, any estimate of demand which would cover seasonal needs would present a greatly inflated figure. For the purpose of this article, demand will be confined to those opportunities offering permanent employment.

The severe shortage of labour facing the many farmers of the country at the close of the war has been greatly relieved. Relief came about principally because of extensive immigration--agriculture undoubtedly has been the greatest benefactor from immigration of all industries to date. A small number of persons were also made available to agriculturalists through the Nova Scotia movement.

The first wave of immigration was directed towards strengthening the agricultural labour force. Approximately 4,500 Polish veterans have been brought to Canada for farm work under Government sponsorship, 2,900 arriving in the Fall of 1946 and 1,600 in the Spring of 1947. The agricultural work force was also reinforced by immigration under private means--the two shiploads of Dutch farmers, which were mentioned above, fall into this class. Under the Nova Scotia movement, 121 workers were transferred to agricultural employment in Central Canada. Approval has also been given for the selection of 2,000 farm workers from Displaced Persons camps in Europe.

At the present time, the demand for permanent help is mild. It was estimated that the absorptive capacity for immigrant labour in agriculture stands at about 2,000 per year. Since the bulk of activity occurs during the summer, winter employment is a problem, as is the case with the Polish veterans presently employed on sugar beet farms. Any extensive absorption in the future will probably have to be dovetailed with some form of winter employment, such as logging.



Labour shortages which are not being met are largely the product of the sharply competitive labour market. Reflecting this, agricultural demand is becoming more and more concentrated in Ontario where other competition for such labour is most severe. Higher pay and shorter hours are constantly drawing workers from the farms into the urban centres. Replacements in the lower wage brackets will be a problem so long as higher wage jobs are available in nearby areas.

Logging--It would appear that no serious labour shortages threaten the logging industry as a whole. A few areas, however, which have undertaken rapid expansion in the post-war period, are in great need of workers. This demand will be met for the most part by the present immigration of workers from Displaced Persons camps.

A peak number of workers were available for the 1946-47 logging season and, according to available reports, the employment objectives for the coming season will not greatly surpass this level, unless skilled workmen become available in greater numbers. This slowing down in expansion has been brought about by the unsatisfactory results obtained from hiring untrained help. The Pulp and Paper industry estimated that in 1946-47 the worst 25 per cent of the loggers employed produced only 5 per cent of the output, while the best 25 per cent produced 50 per cent.

There is, however, a need for expansion of both unskilled and skilled employment in the Lakehead district of northwestern Ontario and it is to this area that immigrant labour is presently being directed. Three new pulp mills have been opened up in these parts and the limited supply of local labour has necessitated recruiting in outside areas. The companies concerned estimated that they could guarantee employment to from 6,000 to 8,000 immigrants, ten months in the year, for two years.

The present quota of woods workers to be brought to Canada from Displaced Persons camps stands at 4,500. Of these, 2,200 had arrived by the end of September.# Since many of these men are experienced woodsmen, it may open up a much larger field for immigrant labour than was previously expected.

Mining--The employment situation in mining is one of continually growing shortages. Producing mines are constantly handicapped by manpower scarcities and mines in the process of opening obtain the necessary crews only with much difficulty. The amelioration of this problem by the movement of workers has been relatively slight to date. The initial transfer of the Nova Scotia unemployed brought some relief to the Ontario gold and nickel mines, the numbers dispatched being 141 and 113 respectively. In addition, coal mines in the Blairmore area of Alberta received 34 Nova Scotia workers. Immigration has not yet provided mining labour, but authorization has recently been given for the importation of 1,000 metal miners from Displaced Persons camps.

The outlook for the mining industry is not clear, however. The coal fields in the Maritimes have been greatly depleted and no large discoveries have recently been made to replace them. The gold mining industry appears to be in a difficult position--many feel that the present price of gold precludes expansion and is forcing marginal mines to close down. The outlook in base metal mining is somewhat more promising, but even in this group uncertainty surrounds demand, since the product is sold largely in countries which are experiencing a shortage of Canadian dollars.

Despite this, it seems evident that 2,000 hardrock miners and approximately 400 coal miners could presently be absorbed. Should this number of trained persons become available, it would open up at least the equivalent number of vacancies for unskilled labour.

# Immigration of woods workers had increased to 3,005 at October 28.



Construction--The clamor for construction tradesmen in Canada has grown steadily greater in the post-war period. A world-wide need for builders, however, has tended to check immigration of tradesmen.

A group of workers numbering slightly over 100 persons, were obtained for the central provinces under the Nova Scotia movement. Some easement is also scheduled to take place in the unskilled labour market. An importation of 5,000 heavy male labourers from the Displaced Persons camps has been authorized and recruiting teams are already in the process of selection.

One of the most acute labour shortages is in the trowel trades. Virtually no training of these craftsmen was undertaken during the 'Thirties and war years. As a result, the supply of tradesmen available for reconstruction not only was relatively scarce but a large proportion of workers were in the older age group. It has been conservatively estimated that 500 bricklayers and 100 plasterers could be absorbed by the construction industry at the present time.

Two factors--material shortages and rising building costs--have currently slowed down the expansion of demand for construction workers. These moderating influences have tended to keep a fair balance between the supply and demand for workers during the current season. If the supply of materials is increased appreciably, however, labour demand may seriously outweigh the available supply within the next few years.

Manufacturing--Practically all types of manufacturing industries are in need of additional workers. The concentration of industry in a relatively small area has aggravated the situation, since the limited supply of local labour is unable to meet the greatly increased industrial demand. Workers in scarce supply may be classified under three broad headings: heavy male labourers; women workers for light manufacturing; technicians.

The shortage of heavy labourers was eased to some extent by the Nova Scotia movement. Some 638 workers were absorbed into agricultural implement factories, 146 in foundries, 211 in nickel refineries, and 275 in various types of building materials manufacturing. Also the proposed immigration of 5,000 unskilled labourers, as previously indicated, will increase the labouring force. The unpleasant working conditions and low wage rates which usually attend this type of work, however, will make it difficult to hold workers to this kind of employment.

In the light manufacturing class, it was estimated that vacancies existed for from 10,000 to 16,000 female immigrants. To date, the textile industry has been the sole benefactor from immigration in this group, workers having been brought in from Newfoundland and European Displaced Persons camps. Further immigration to this industry has been recently authorized, approval having been given for the importation of 2,000 skilled needle workers. Under the Nova Scotia movement, the textile industry received 244 transferees (129 male and 115 female).

The Nova Scotia movement also provided some 160 women for rubber, shoe manufacturing and food processing plants.

The tremendous expansion in manufacturing activity has seriously taxed the supply of technical men available. Experienced engineers, in particular, are in great demand. Immigration through individual company orders has brought some workers from the United Kingdom but it is doubtful if the number presently entering will offset the emigration of Canadian-trained technicians to the United States.

Service--The service industry falls into two main groups--professional and non-professional.

In the general service group, including domestics, waitresses, kitchen

help, etc., the acute shortage of workers which developed during the war has received little relief during the post-war period. Since the scarcity of service workers is Dominion-wide, the Nova Scotia movement was unable to ease the situation. Immigration gave promise of relieving the shortage somewhat, authorization having been given for the immediate importation of 1,000 girls followed by an additional 2,000 to be brought over as transport becomes available.# The first 500 will be placed in hospitals and institutions and attention will then be given to relieving the situation in private homes.

There is a definite disinclination on the part of Canadian women to enter service work and it does not appear probable that this trend will be quickly reversed. The gap between demand and available supply was conservatively estimated at from 10,000 to 12,000 workers. It would appear that immigration offers the most plausible solution although the extent to which it proves successful will depend upon the willingness of importees to remain in service work.

In the professional field, there is a general shortage of nurses and medical doctors. In view of the present heavy enrolments in universities, however, and at the same time, the great need for such persons in Europe, little attempt has been made to satisfy demand through immigration.

In conclusion, it may be said that the foregoing outlines the extent and effects of organized immigration to date. It is not at all certain, however, that the persons involved will remain in the employment to which they have been directed. Already, under the Nova Scotia movement where no compulsion forces workers to stay in the designated employment, shifting between jobs has been extensive. In immigration, most workers are bound by a two-year contract and thus the ultimate effect will not be visible for some time. The real test will come when these workers, too, become free to move within the labour market as they wish.

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# At October 28, 416 domestic workers had arrived.

## EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Unplaced applicants fall as low as 84,000 during September - The first three quarters of 1947 have seen a progressively more extensive use of manpower reserves. By the middle of September, applicants registered with the National Employment Service had been pared down to 84,000, as against the seasonal low of 134,000 in 1946. Currently, unplaced applicants have been on the uptrend but even by the middle of October the number reported was less than 92,000.

Labour demand reaches peak at mid-September - Recruiting of help was extremely active during September, the high point in employment usually being reached around the beginning of October. The intensity of demand sprung largely from the summer active industries--agriculture, construction, and transportation--although pressure was also added by a heavy recruiting program in logging. Labour needs in food processing were heavy during the first few weeks as crews were being manned; but by the end of September demand had largely subsided. Employment in trade was also stimulated, the opening of schools creating a sizeable demand for temporary help.

An average of 35,000 vacancies (including agriculture) was reported each week in September, indicating a gain of three per cent over those reported in August. The greater part of current reportings were received earlier in the month and, as a result, unfilled vacancies fell from the mid-September peak of 117,000 to 110,000 at the month-end and 102,000 at mid-October.

Labour force augmented by non-workers and immigrants - The "pressure point" of seasonal demand was largely met by a greater use of the non-working segment of the civilian population. Married women entered the labour market to aid in agriculture and food processing plants. At the same time, part-time employment opened up opportunities for students and retired workers.

Immigration also provided an inflow of workers, although limited transport facilities have tended to hamper relief by this means.

Approximately 31,000 persons registered for work each week during September, indicating an increase of 18 per cent over the weekly registrations for August.

Hiring rate jumped to meet seasonal requirements - Placing of workers into jobs increased by eight per cent during September. A large part of current hirings was in the unskilled field, thus "block" rather

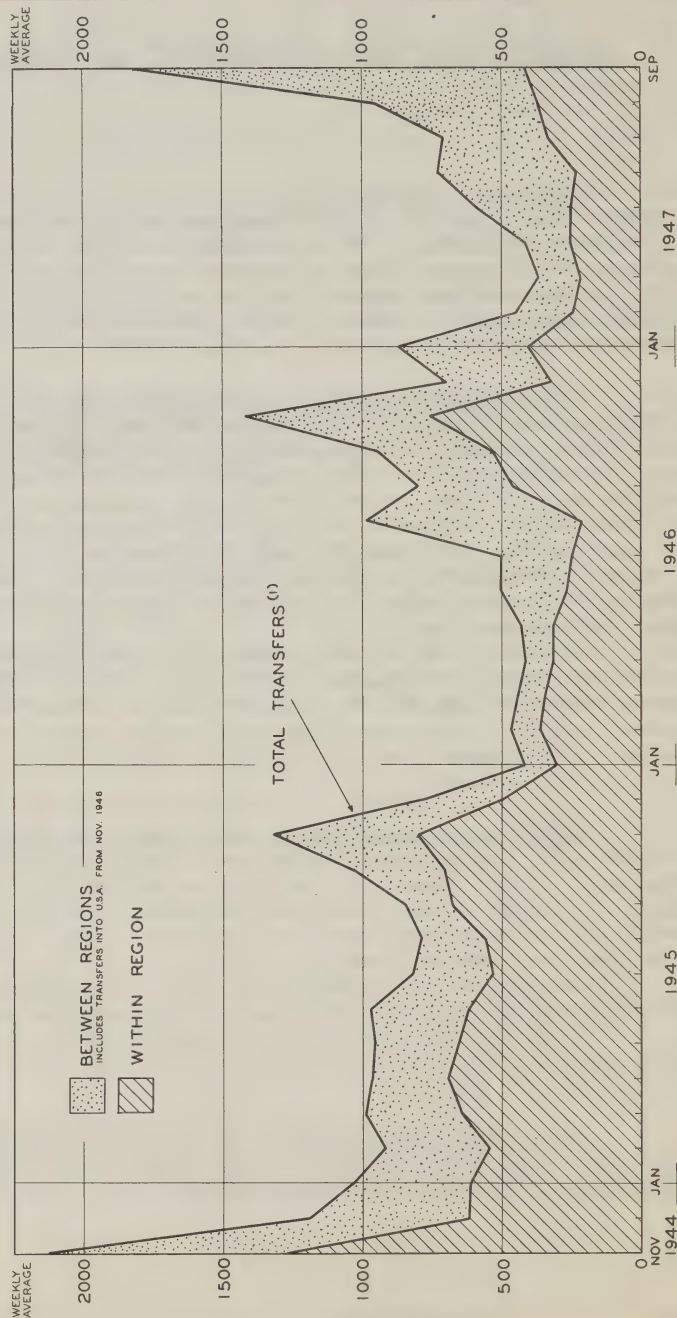


# MOVEMENT OF WORKERS

BY

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

NOVEMBER 1944 TO SEPTEMBER 1947



(1) REFERS TO THE NUMBER WHO HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM ONE LOCAL OFFICE TO VACANCIES OUTSIDE OF THE LOCAL OFFICE.

SOURCE: U.I.C. 751

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M.3-1.1

than selective placements tended to predominate. Absorption of the physically handicapped continued, the routine type of work in food processing plants being particularly suitable for these workers.

Many of the placements effected during September were temporary. However, since large numbers of those currently placed are not in search of permanent work, their release from employment over the next few months should not create an unemployment problem.

Movements of workers relieved much of the pressure of agricultural demand. Approximately 2,200 men were transferred to the Prairie harvest fields; 7,800 workers were temporarily released for harvesting in the United States; 1,600 were recruited for potato picking in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick; 1,500 were brought in for the apple harvest in Nova Scotia. In addition, thousands of workers throughout the country shifted independently into agriculture during the peak of activity.

Average weekly placements during September totalled 16,700, nine per cent of which were into agriculture.

#### CLEARANCE PROCEDURE.....

The leading article in this issue of the CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET discusses the organized migration of workers and the effects of such movements on labour shortages in Canada. Aside from such organized group movements, however, a great deal of labour migration occurs on an individual basis. Much of this individual migration is successfully promoted and achieved by the National Employment Service. The following, therefore, deals briefly with the machinery provided by the Employment Service to carry out much movements.

The word "National", as used in the title National Employment Service, implies the organization of the labour market on a Dominion-wide scale. That is, instead of confining any individual labour market to its particular geographical boundaries, the Employment Service provides machinery by means of which workers can be recruited anywhere in the Dominion. The advantages of such facilities are obvious.

First, it is evident that the larger the market, the greater the possibility of effectively matching the worker to the job.

The second advantage stems from the peculiar structure of the Canadian economy. One of the main sources of the national income of this country is agriculture where seasonal labour demands cannot be met by the local supply of workers; help, therefore has to be recruited over a large area. In addition, logging and mining, being situated to a large extent in the undeveloped and unpopulated sections of the country, must draw a large part of their manpower from beyond the immediate supply of labour. Also, the rapid and intense growth of Canadian industry in relatively small areas has tended to exhaust the local supplies of labour and the importation of workers has been necessary in order to meet these growing labour needs.

The process of matching an excess of jobs in one area with a surplus of workers in another is called clearance. The terminology is similar to that used in banking, where clearance is defined as the method of adjusting balances. If workers are not available in the immediate area,

an order is cleared to neighboring Employment Service offices, and if a surplus of workers does not exist there, the orders are further cleared to a wider range of offices. This means of matching "balances" may be continued up to the Dominion level.

A rough count of orders in clearance at the end of June, 1947, revealed that about 12,000 vacancies were circulating within the regions and another 3,000 (some of which would duplicate the regional orders previously mentioned) were in a clearance between regions. The number of placements resulting from clearance is indicated by the chart included in this section.

### The Growth of Clearance Machinery in Canada

The need for some control of the irregular movements of labour which were taking place in Canada was one of the main stimulants in promoting a national system of employment offices. Early in the 1900's, it was found, for example, that unemployment persisted in British Columbia while employers elsewhere were vigorously recruiting help from the United Kingdom. Seasonal movements of harvest labour between provinces were irregular and sometimes excessive. Large groups of transferred labour were found idle in some centres, while other areas were seriously in need of additional help.

The passing of the Employment Offices' Co-ordination Act in 1918, therefore, authorized the establishment of an inter-provincial system of clearance. Dominion offices were to be maintained in Ottawa and Winnipeg. To facilitate transfer of help within the provinces, clearance headquarters were to be set up at Vancouver, Edmonton, Regina, Winnipeg, Toronto, and Montreal. A daily report of suitable clearance orders was to be forwarded to provincial headquarters by the local offices. The provincial office, in turn, could clear the orders to the Dominion headquarters.

Two main weaknesses of the clearance system became apparent. First, the limited integration of the Employment Service into the economic life of the country restricted the scope of clearance. Placement activity was largely confined to the primary industries. Thus, movements became largely seasonal transfers of harvest workers. Second, control remained in the hands of the provinces, and the Dominion was unable to relieve unemployment "spots" between provinces unless the provinces themselves were willing to provide orders.

Despite these drawbacks, clearance work was active during the Twenties. Transfers recorded at employment offices averaged about 30,000 a year. The depression years, however, drastically cut clearance activity. Transfers dropped to around 4,000 a year. At the outbreak of World War II, clearance was playing a relatively insignificant role in the labour market scene.

The effective administration of unemployment insurance necessitated a national system of employment offices. This, together with the emergency need for machinery to administer National Selective Service controls, resulted in the development of a comprehensive clearance system by the end of 1942. This system organized along regional rather than provincial lines, and covering every field of industrial activity because of National Selective Service has become a vital aspect of current labour



market activity.

The post-war volume of clearance has, of course, been much less than that which took place during the war years. Lacking the compulsion of N.S.S., and confronted with a tremendous housing shortage, labour transfers dropped to 31,000 in 1946. (1) Although numerically little higher than the amount recorded in the Twenties, the composition of clearance orders has undergone a vast change. Movements are becoming more and more a part of a long-term readjustment of labour supply, in contrast to the early intensive temporary transfers designed only to satisfy seasonal needs.

#### Clearance Facilities of the National Employment Service

The system of clearance presently available at N.E.S. enables job orders or applications to be circulated anywhere within the Dominion. The principle behind the existing machinery, however, is that movements are advisable only when local supplies of labour have been exhausted. The clearance network, therefore, provides for various levels at which clearance may take place—zone of first clearance, district (applies only to certain localities), region, and the country as a whole.

An order which cannot be filled locally may be considered for clearance. Factors determining whether the order should go in clearance in the main are: availability of housing, arrangements for paying transportation, permanency of employment, differences in wage rates between areas, and union agreements. If the clearance officer feels that the employment offered is suitable for clearance he will, with the consent of the employer, circulate the order in the zone of first clearance. These zones usually include the four or five adjacent local offices areas—in the more densely populated sections the zones are approximately 50 to 60 miles in radius. If unable to secure help within this area, the order is forwarded to the regional officer who will distribute it throughout the region. If this proves ineffective, it will then proceed to inter-regional clearance.

The selection job in clearance work may be done by employers' representatives. That is, should an employer wish to recruit help in an unemployment area he may himself make use of the facilities of the employment offices. The employment office in the labour surplus area will conduct a rough screening of the available supply whereupon the employer's representative will proceed with the actual hiring of workers. This not only eliminates unnecessary moving, but can also act as a protection to employer and employee, since an employment record of both parties is on file at employment offices. This in the main has been the means for recruiting workers for the Nova Scotia movement.

The clearance of applications has been limited to the more specialized type of applicant—executive and professional personnel,

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(1) Some differences in definition exist between "Transfers out" under the Dominion-Provincial employment offices and those at present reported by the National Employment Service. However, it is felt that they can be compared on a broad scale, since the area served by the offices of the former system approximate the present size of the zones of first clearance (placements within these zones are not reported as transfers).

administrative officers, highly skilled craftsmen. Persons whose experience and education have narrowed their range of employment require a larger market to effectively sell their services. The labourer or semi-skilled worker has a much broader field in which to find employment; if jobs are available, they can usually be found in relatively close vicinity.

### Types of Clearance Activities

The work of clearance is so well incorporated into the day-by-day act of getting workers for the job and vice versa that it is difficult to segregate it from the normal functioning of the Employment Service. However, for the purpose of clarification, it may be said that clearance activity falls into three main classes; general, seasonal, and emergency.

General--Clearance operations, in the general field, provide a systematic means of enlarging any particular recruiting area. If workers cannot be obtained in the immediate vicinity, employers have access to neighboring supplies of labour through circulating orders along clearance lines. The major part of clearance work is confined within the zone of first clearance due to housing shortages, transportation costs, and the native immobility of the working population. When a large number or a special class of worker is required, however, orders may be circulated from coast to coast. For example, skilled fish cutters were in great demand in Nova Scotia and resource was made to the Pacific region in order to obtain the necessary labour.

Several spectacular tasks have been accomplished through the help of the clearance machine. Among the most notable are the re-settling of Espanola, Ontario, by bringing in families from all parts of the Dominion; the building up of Chalk River, Ontario, during the most serious labour shortage period of the war; and the recruitment of help over the past year for the Ontario Hydro Electric project at Des Joachims.

Seasonal--The seasonal migration of workers under Government sponsorship is of long standing. The development of agriculture in the Prairie provinces necessitated a vast inflow of workers during the harvest season. The past few years, however, have seen a gradual falling off in this seasonal migration, the extensive use of combine machinery greatly reducing the number of workers needed.

Arrangements for the transfer of farm workers are presently covered by a Dominion-Provincial Agreement. Under this Agreement, the Dominion and Provincial governments consent to "share equally" under exceptional circumstances the cost of transporting workers to employment in agriculture and allied industries. In some cases, the transferees are required to pay a small portion of the cost.

Under present arrangements, three major movements of agricultural workers are undertaken each year. The first is the movement of girls from the Prairies for berry picking in British Columbia. This is usually conducted during June and the first two weeks of July. Secondly, and commencing about the middle of June, farm hands from the Prairie provinces are despatched to Central Canada for haying. The third and largest excursion is the transfer of Ontario and Quebec workers for the Prairie harvest during August and September. Approximately 4,000 workers were

transferred under these arrangements during 1947.

Emergency—This classification covers directed movements of workers out of areas of "serious" unemployment which have been designated as such by the Deputy Minister of the federal Department of Labour. The cost of transporting the unemployed from these districts is borne by the Dominion government.

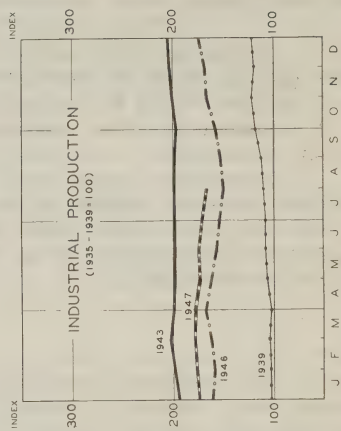
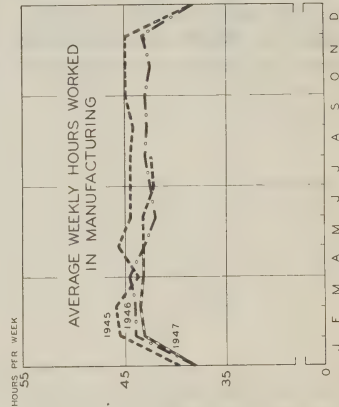
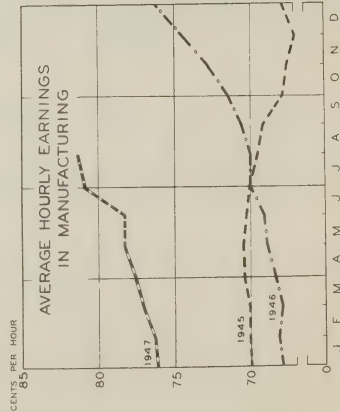
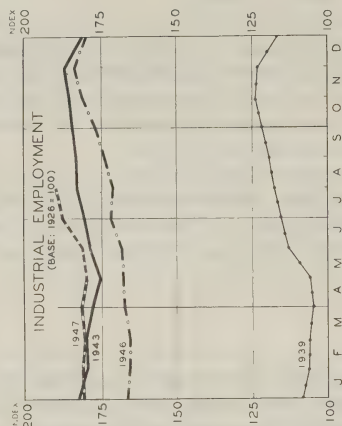
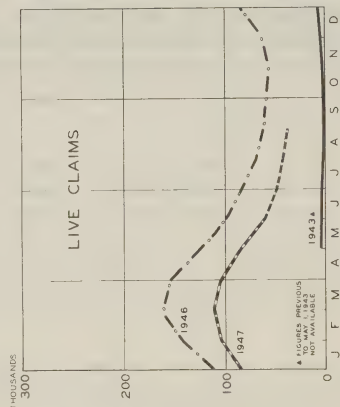
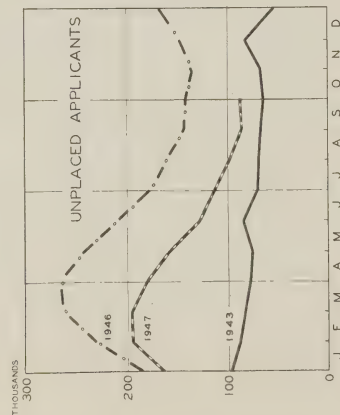
Three such moves have been authorized in the post-war period which have enabled persons to be moved out of Vancouver, B.C., Windsor, Ont., and the Cape Breton area of Nova Scotia. The latter has been discussed in some detail in the leading article of this issue of the CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET.

The foregoing has given a rather narrow application of clearance work, confining itself largely ~~to the use of~~ clearance in a labour shortage market. Much could be said about its importance during periods of declining activity. In conclusion, it may be stated that the clearance machine, as available at the National Employment Service, is an essential instrument in any program for the maintenance of full employment.



# SIGNIFICANT LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

PRE-WAR, WAR, AND POST-WAR COMPARISON



## EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES

### MANUFACTURING.....

Estimated employment .....	1,330,000
Unfilled vacancies .....	34,000

Employment in the Canadian manufacturing industries has been increasing steadily during 1947 and now is about 10 per cent above the level of the same period in 1946. Total wage earner employment is estimated at just under 1,100,000 with "own-accounts" and employers in the labour force bringing the total number of persons in Canada who are working in manufacturing plants to over 1,300,000. This total is slightly higher than the number employed in agriculture this year at the seasonal peak.

The accompanying table shows the increase in employment this year, due primarily to the continuing high level of demand for goods as consumer purchasing power remains high. The flow of goods, especially of consumer durables, has been much steadier this year, helped by the absence of any of the major strike disturbances which occurred in 1946. To the end of October, the only big manufacturing strike was that of some 13,500 meat packing employees who went out on August 27 and who were granted wage increases ranging from 7 to 10 cents per hour after a strike of nearly two months.

With the exception of the primary textile and the food processing industries, shortage of labour is not a serious handicap to production in this industry. Of the 34,000 vacancies reported by the National Employment Service in manufacturing at the first of October, 11,700 were in the textile industries and 5,200 in the food and kindred products group. Over 80 per cent of the textile vacancies were for women.

Material shortages are reported from some areas. Shortage of steel has led to lay-offs in many plants, notably automotive factories in Windsor.

Table I—Trends of Strategic Economic Factors in Manufacturing, 1947  
January 1, 1947=100

(Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Date	Physical Production	Wholesale Prices	Average Hourly Earnings	Employment
1947-January 1 .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
February 1 .....	102.2	103.4	100.1	101.7
March 1 .....	101.9	105.4	103.8	102.0
April 1 .....	102.1	107.6	101.8	102.4
May 1 .....	100.3	109.7	102.8	102.7
June 1 .....	100.9	111.9	104.7	103.6
July 1 .....	97.7	113.0	106.0	105.1
August 1 .....	-	114.5	106.7	106.1

Average hourly earnings in all manufacturing industries at August 1, 1947 were 81.3 cents. In meat products, the average was 83.0 cents; in textiles, 62.4; pulp and paper products, 91.5 and in iron and steel products 92.4. Data referring to salaried employees is not included in these averages.

#### AGRICULTURE .....

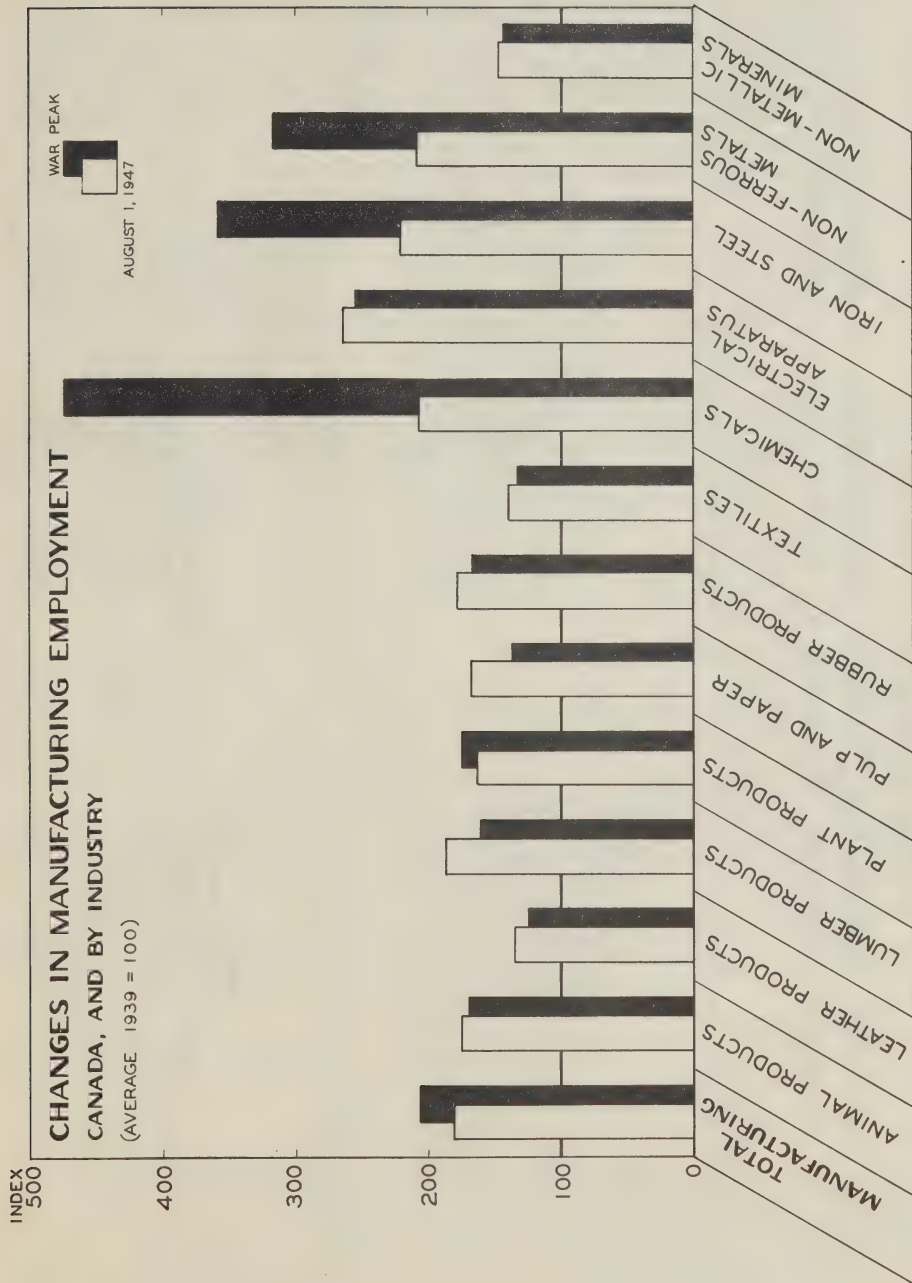
Estimated employment ..... 1,300,000

During the harvest season, the Canadian agricultural labour force usually reaches a level about 300,000 above its winter low. This year, employment in agriculture has been below the 1946 level. The latest estimates of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, at August 16, place the total at 1,301,000 compared to the figure of 1,317,000 at August 31, 1946.

This industry draws chiefly on two sources of supplementary labour during the summer and fall. Paid workers, often transient labour, add about 70,000 to the total work force, and unpaid family workers in agriculture usually increase by over 100,000 in the busy season.

Several movements of agricultural labour have been carried out this year. As usual, the harvest excursion from the Eastern provinces to the Prairies was carried out. This year, it is estimated some 2,200 harvesters made the trip. In addition, about 300 men were sent from Manitoba to points further west. Two large groups of potato pickers were sent to the United States this year under the supervision of the National Employment Service. From Quebec, over 6,000 workers were dispatched from September 17 to September 25 to harvest potatoes in Maine. Most will be staying from 3 to 4 weeks. Manitoba sent 1,000 workers down to North Dakota, also to harvest potatoes, and a similar movement was carried on between Saskatchewan and Montana.



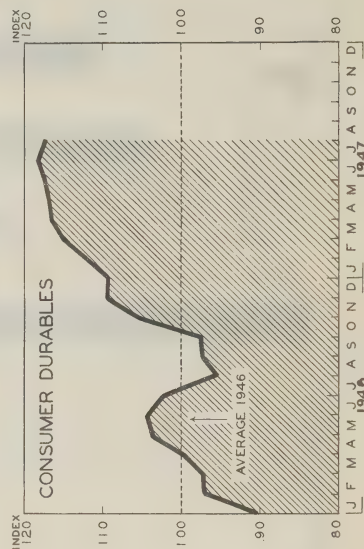
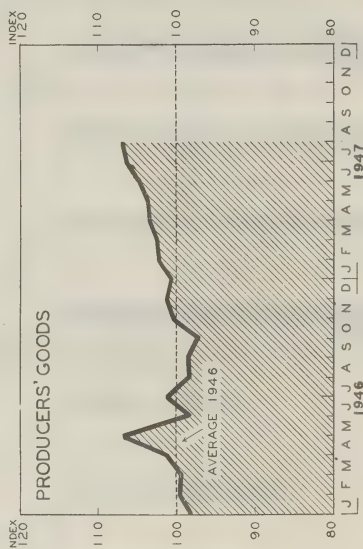
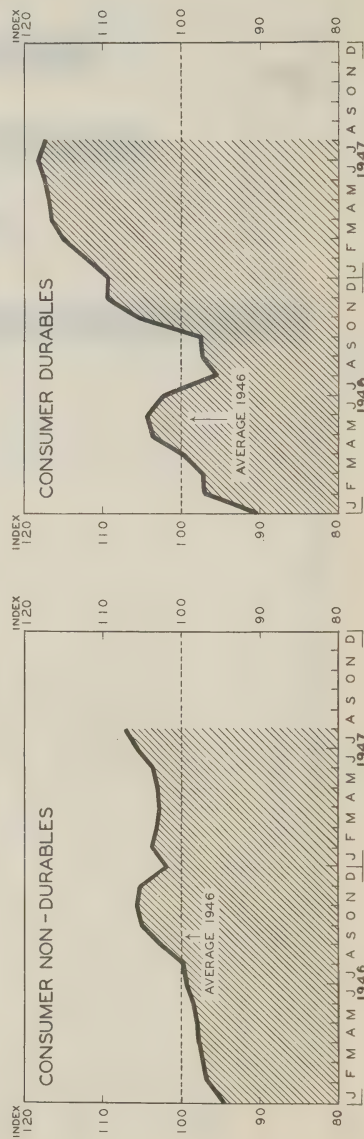
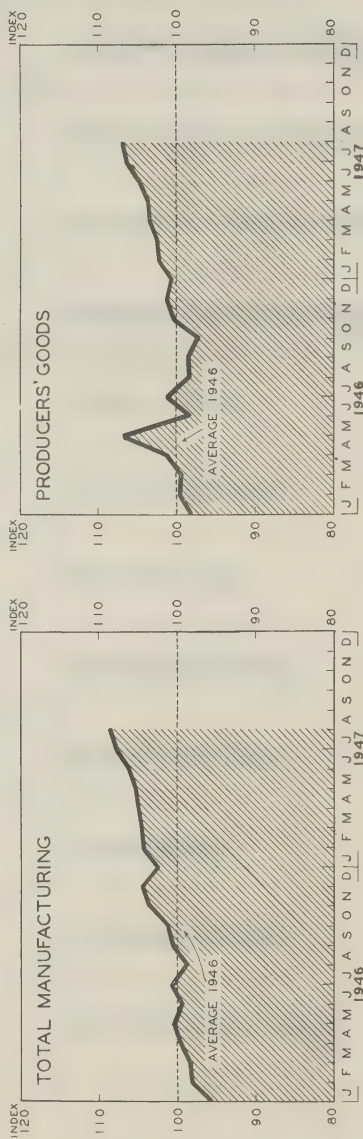


# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

## MAJOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

(INDUSTRIES GROUPED ACCORDING TO GENERAL USE OF PRODUCTS)

1946 — 1947



In general demand for agricultural labour has not been as strong this year as it was last year. One factor which has served to lessen the demand this year has been the smaller volume of production both in field and in root crops. Reduced acreages and lower yields have affected both the wheat and oat crops adversely. Canada's wheat crop this year is estimated at 350 million bushels or about 70 million bushels below last year. With the exception of hay and clover and alfalfa, all root and fodder crops are down in size.

#### SERVICES.....

Estimated employment ..... 825,000  
Unfilled vacancies ..... 18,650

Possibly the most serious labour shortage in the Canadian economy at the present time is in the services industry. Despite this lack of labour, however, the industry now is the third largest on the basis of employment, surpassed only by agriculture and manufacturing.

Some improvement in the labour situation in personal service was noted during October. The closing of summer resorts released a considerable number of waitresses, kitchen help, and other similar workers associated with the tourist and summer hotel business.

During the first three weeks of October, some 425 D.P. girls arrived, the first group of a movement of 3,000. Most of these were placed in institutional work, mainly hospitals, with about 35 going to private homes as an experiment to assist in determining the disposition of the remainder. This movement will only begin to meet labour requirements in domestic service. At the first of October, the National Employment Service had a registered demand of over 4,000 for this type of work and the total effective demand would probably be several times this figure.

Data on weekly earnings is available for two groups in the services industry. At the first of August, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics received reports covering 46,500 salaried employees and wage earners in hotels and restaurants who earned on the average \$22.22 per week. A second group of 21,000 personal service workers, mainly in laundries, made \$25.42 per week at the same date. These figures compare with similar averages in such industries as trade, \$31.77; manufacturing, \$36.98; \$35.71 in finance; and \$34.76 in construction and maintenance.

#### TRADE, FINANCE, AND INSURANCE .....

Estimated employment ..... 720,000  
Unfilled vacancies ..... 9,700

Following the normal seasonal pattern, employment in retail trade dropped slightly at August 1, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics index at that date being 210.4 (1926-100) compared with the figure of 211.2 one month previous. Wage-earner employment in retail trade is now estimated at



379,000 or about 27,000 above last year.

In the first 8 months of 1947, retail sales have averaged 9 per cent above 1946, with most, if not all, of this increase being due to price advances. Heavy sales of household appliances have helped to maintain the level of sales this year, sales of radio and electrical appliances stores during August were up 12.9 per cent and furniture sales were up 3.9 per cent above August 1946. For the same period, men's clothing sales increased 9.9 per cent and food sales 7.3 per cent. Sales in three types of stores dropped during August. These were jewellery, women's clothing, and hardware.

The following are typical comments made by department store officials interviewed by field representatives of the Department of Labour:

".....our turnover in staff is considerably on the increase this year at all stores and it may equal the 1943 peak....."

"The use of charge accounts and time payments is increasing. I believe this is due to more goods being available rather than people are running short of money".

"Deliveries are still chaotic. It's just as bad to receive goods too early as too late. In the former case, we have to handle and store them and in the latter may not be able to sell them except at large discounts. It's a continual struggle between the retailer who does not wish to order in large quantities or too far ahead and the manufacturer who wants orders well in advance so he can plan his production schedules".

#### MINING.....

Estimated employment ..... 80,000

Unfilled vacancies ..... 4,000

The labour market in the mining industry is still characterized by extreme shortages of skilled labour and high turnover, complicated in some districts by lack of housing accommodation.

"All efforts to obtain Canadians for underground work have been unsuccessful," according to J.G. McCrea, president of the Canadian Metal Mining Association. "Almost every mine in the country needs men if production is to be kept up to current demand".

Plans for the immigration of some 2,000 D.P.'s for underground work in metal mines got under way during October with the dispatching of a selection team to Europe to screen applicants. The first 500 of the immigrants most of whom are Ukrainian, Polish, or Balt in origin, are expected to arrive during November.

Some opposition to the plan has been expressed by locals of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers. District Co-ordinator R. Hamson of Local 240 in the Kirkland Lake Area recently stated:

"We are not opposed to the D.P.'s entry into Canada. We welcome them as long as they accept our democratic way of life and help us to preserve and extend the liberties we have won. But we are opposed to the D.P.'s being used to restore the manpower problem because it simply means that the mine owners are trying to freeze the low wage policy instead of keeping with wages and working conditions in other industries".

During October, several possible work stoppages loomed up on the labour-management horizon, both in the coal and in the metal mining industry groups.

In the coal mining industry, while collective agreements in Alberta and British Columbia are not scheduled to expire until March 31, 1948, it is reported that District 18, United Mine Workers of America, has served notice of cancellation upon the bituminous and domestic operators as of November 1. It may be that this action was taken as a result of the recent gains achieved by the U.M.W.A. in the United States. Accordingly, there is a possibility of a strike in this region. It is not clear whether the proposed cancellation of agreements is permissible under the labour legislation of the two provinces. In Southern Saskatchewan coal mines, existing collective agreements were renewed this summer and agreements between Dosco subsidiaries and District 26 of the U.M.W.A. in the Maritimes continue in effect until January 31, 1948.

A serious controversy in British Columbia base metal mines may result from the expiration of agreements between the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers and the Britannia Mining and Smelting Co. Ltd. and Granby Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. Ltd. It is expected that the union will seek wage increases which the two companies are likely to resist. Agreements between the union and the various gold mining companies in this province expire later in the year and a similar situation is expected to result.

In northern Ontario, the Conciliation Boards established to deal with wage disputes involving the principal hard rock mining companies have completed proceedings but no settlement has been reached. There is a possibility of work stoppages here.

The strike of 328 employees of Sherritt Gordon Mines Ltd., Sherridon, Man., which began August 13 is still in progress.

#### CONSTRUCTION.....

Estimated employment.....285,000  
Unfilled vacancies ..... 15,000

Attainment of the upper limit of potential employment in the construction industry is still being prevented by shortages of skilled labour and material but the present level of employment, 285,000 is

nearly 20,000 above the figure at this time last year. During last winter, the number of persons employed in this industry sank below the 185,000 mark.

In September, for the fourth successive month, the value of contracts awarded was higher than in 1946. The September value was \$76,163,500, as compared with the September, 1946, total of \$44,816,400. For several months this spring the value of contracts awarded was considerably less than during 1946, a fact which caused some worry as to the future trend of employment in this industry. Gains during recent months, however, have more than offset this slow start and the value of contracts awarded for the first nine months of 1947 totalled \$548,232,000, an advance of \$42,700,000 over last year's total for the same period.

Residential housing contracts are still running about 15 per cent below the 1946 level but the heavy carryover of work from last year will mean that in all likelihood last year's total of 64,000 housing completions will be bettered during 1947. It has been estimated that 70,000 new homes will be built this year. In the first 7 months of 1947, completions numbered 21,364.

Registered labour demand in the construction industry at October 1, 1947, was 14,938. Slightly over one-half of this total was required for building and structure work with the remainder being divided among special trade contractors (2,000); highway, bridge and street construction (1,100); railway construction and maintenance (1,500); and other general construction (2,000).

In British Columbia, a general pattern of wage increases of 15 cents per hour is being established in the construction trades and in the province of Quebec a general wage increase of 20 per cent is being sought. A wage dispute in St. John, N.B., led to the walkout of over 350 carpenters, members of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners (A.F.L.), on September 29. The strike was called to enforce the recommendations of a Conciliation Board for a general 7 cents an hour increase in the basic rate. Agreement was reached between the union and the Canadian Construction Association on October 23 on the basis of a provisional contract providing for the 7 cents an hour increase recommended and a conditional union shop. This increase brings the basic rate up to 95 cents an hour.



## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following is a brief summary of labour market conditions in each of the five regions, Maritime, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie, and Pacific.

Table I—Unplaced Applicants by Region, at Selected Dates

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

Region	October 2, 1947			Aug. 28, 1947	Oct. 3, 1946
	Male	Female	Total	Total	Total
Maritime.....	10,800	2,500	13,300	14,100	20,600
Quebec.....	13,900	8,400	22,300	23,000	34,700
Ontario.....	14,900	9,300	24,200	22,500	49,500
Prairie.....	8,100	4,600	12,700	12,900	18,900
Pacific.....	10,900	3,800	14,700	13,500	18,400
Canada.....	58,600	28,600	87,200	86,000	142,100

### MARITIME REGION.....

Downtrend in unplaced applicants continues at slower rate.—A decrease of 800 unplaced applicants during September continued to keep the number of job seekers about 7,000 below last year's level. This paralleling of last year's trend, at a lower level, has continued since the end of July. Last year the seasonal low was at the end of October. It is probable, therefore, that the downward trend this year will continue for another month.

Potato harvest occupies attention—With the completion of the grain harvest, labour was needed for the potato and apple crops. The potato harvest in New Brunswick had reached a peak by the end of the month, but that in Prince Edward Island was a little later. Workers from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were moved to the potato areas in New Brunswick for the digging, and about 500 men from Sydney were placed on farms near Charlottetown and Summerside, P.E.I. In addition, over 500 potato pickers from New Brunswick were sent to Maine for the harvest.

Logging employment climbs--Pulp operations have been extensive for this time of year, with orders for over 1,000 woodsmen on hand since early summer. Employers have been specifying experienced men. When harvesting has been completed, many more men will be available.

Lumber has been moving rapidly to market and a large cut is indicated for the winter. Of the total 1946-47 cut, 40 per cent went to the domestic market and 30 per cent to the United Kingdom. New contracts for lumber exported to Britain have not been announced, and so changes as to price and volume are not yet known.

Slight interruptions in coal mining production--Generally steady production, with a resulting increased output, characterized the coal mining industry, but slight interruptions were caused in the Stellarton and Springhill areas by a temporary shortage of coal cars. In the Inverness area, a shortage of orders resulted in some mines operating part time. The mines in the Minto area are in need of certificated miners; during the coal strike a large number of miners left the district to seek other employment.

It is reported that the work of changing over Dominion Coal Company mines from the present system of mining to mechanized mining was further advanced by the acceptance, by a referendum vote of the miners, of a new schedule of rates covering various operations connected with mechanization. This is considered very important and should facilitate commencement of operations on arrival of the machinery.

Employment in heavy manufacturing stabilizing--The promise of steady production for months in the iron and steel industry with the placing of contracts for transportation equipment offers a decided contrast to the situation during the last two years, when employment in many areas in this industry fluctuated violently from month to month. The basic steel industry will benefit from the stability in demand.

### Halifax

A comparison of manufacturing employment over an interval of twelve months reveals a net loss in employment of 2m020 at July 1, 1947. Shipbuilding accounted for a loss of 2,020, but slight increases in other manufacturing industries decreased the slump.

At present there are two major shipyards in Halifax, the H.M.C. Dockyard, and Halifax Shipyards Limited. The H.M.C. Dockyard was responsible for the major part of the employment slump in manufacturing during the twelve months under review. In contrast, Halifax Shipyards Ltd. has been active on ship repair work and now has secured a contract for new ship construction for the Argentine Government. This company expects to hire more than 900 men at peak activity, and the work should continue for two years. This company now is at a temporary lull due to the completion of the current contract and it is probable that about 400 men will be laid off until new contracts start. In contrast with manufacturing, non-manufacturing industry expanded employment to show a small net gain of 360 workers.

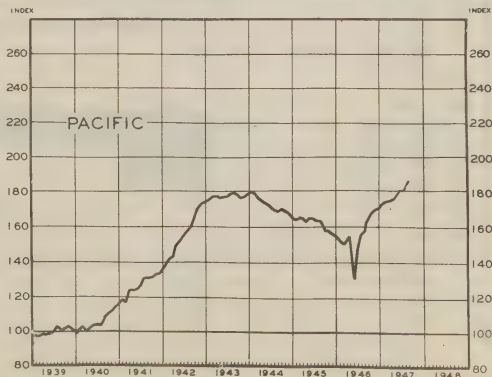
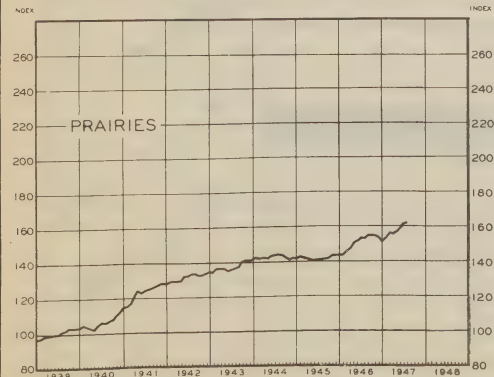
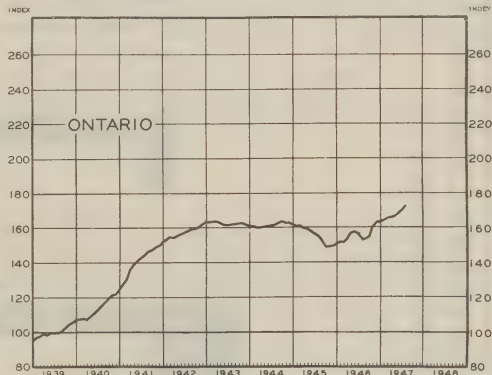
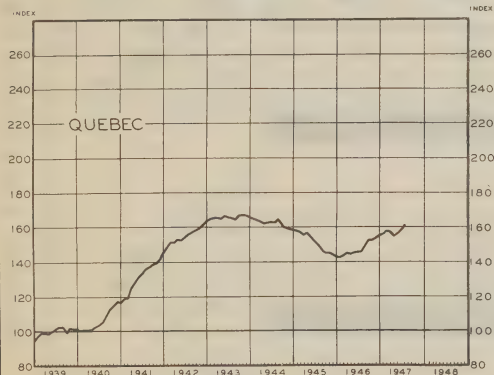
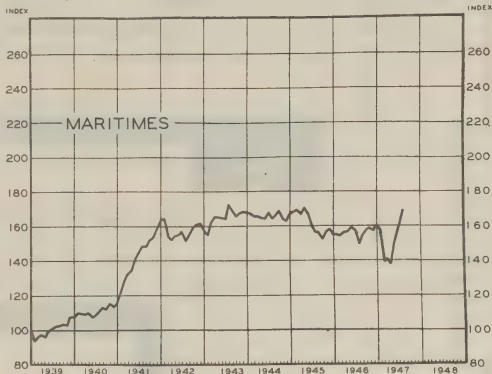
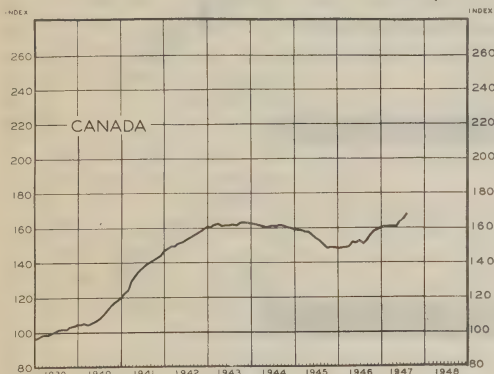
The construction industry employs a large proportion of the labour in the area and is largely responsible for the gain in non-manufacturing employment. On the other hand, port activity is lighter than a year ago, and since the transportation industry is one of the chief employers of labour, this decrease in activity and resultant drop in employment has counteracted the increase in employment brought about by expansion in the construction industry.

# REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

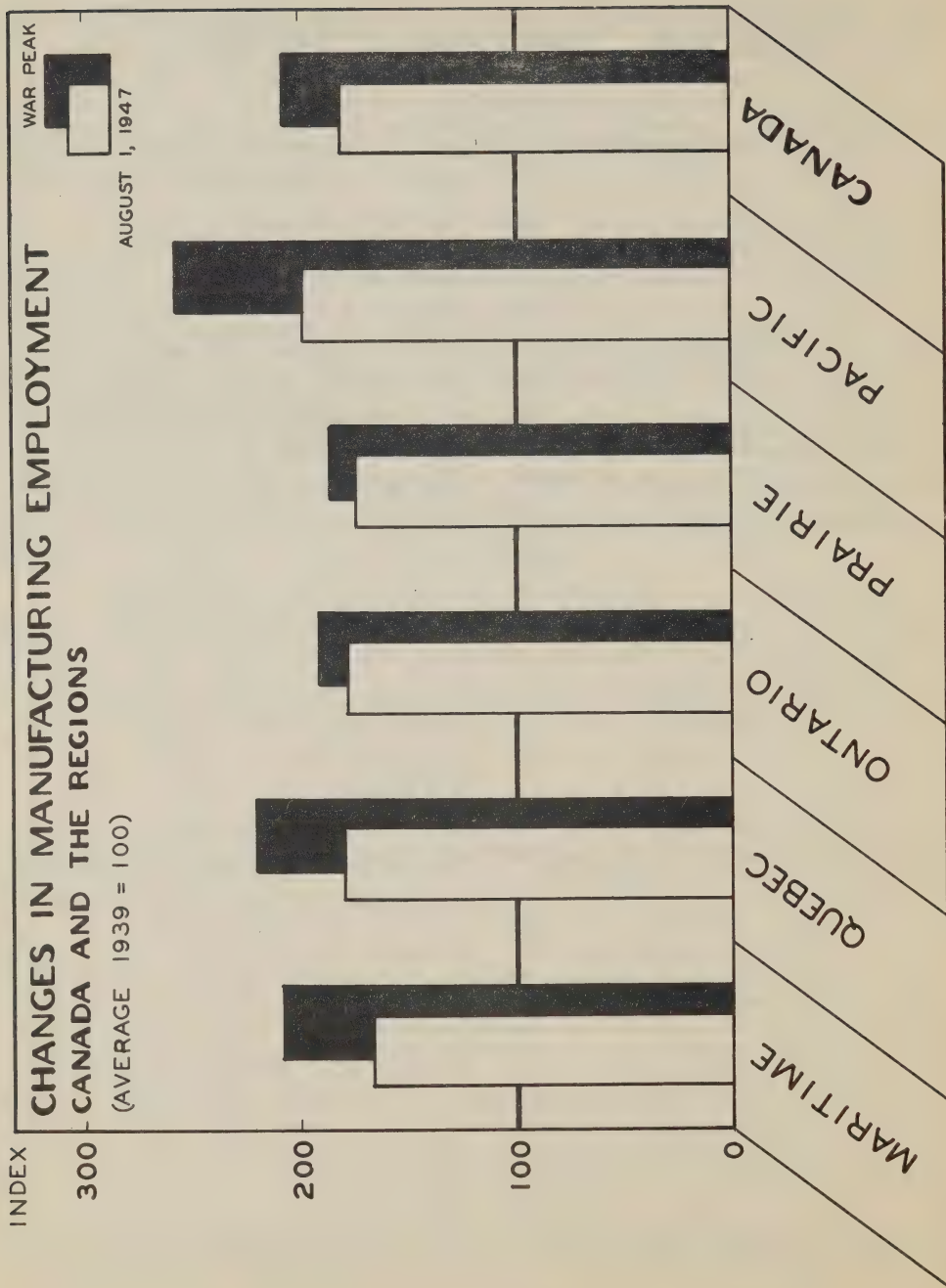
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)







### New Glasgow - Pictou

Only four industries in this area showed a gain in employment for the twelve months ending July 1, 1947 - iron and steel manufacturing, textiles, construction, and wholesale trade. These slight increases took place during a period when unplaced applicants never numbered less than 2,300 in an area where total reported employment amounted to about 3,300 for many months.

Manufacturing lost 300 men during the twelve months, largely because of a reduction in shipbuilding employment. There are now only about 100 men reported as working in shipbuilding compared to the wartime work force of some 3,600.

Non-manufacturing employment held its own during the year. Coal mining accounts for 73 per cent of total non-manufacturing employment. All local coal mines are operating full time and one new mine will soon start production; an occasional day's work is missed because of the shortage of railway cars.

Expanded employment in manufacturing will be provided by the Eastern Car Co., Ltd., which now is starting work on the C.N.R. order for 1,700 box cars. This work will provide steady jobs for several hundred additional men, a decided contrast to the major fluctuations in employment which have prevailed in this company since the war.

Apple picking in the Annapolis Valley and potato picking in Prince Edward Island will provide jobs for workers willing to take this work.

### Saint John

During the twelve months from July 1, 1946, to the same date this year, overall employment shows an increase of about 1,060 workers. This gain, however, does not mean that employment expanded in every industry; in actual fact, the net gain in employment is the result of expansion in some industries overcoming set-backs in others.

Roughly 73 per cent of the total employment gain during the period occurred in non-manufacturing - the remaining 27 per cent in manufacturing.

Saint John is the trade and service centre of the Saint John River valley, besides being an active sea port. Thus non-manufacturing industry is dominant in this area.

Every non-manufacturing industry, with the exception of construction, shows some employment gain in the twelve months. The lack of growth in the construction industry is not particularly serious inasmuch as this industry is employing most of the skilled and semi-skilled men available. Attempts are now being made to secure additional construction work of a civic nature to maintain the present level of employment.

Employment gains in manufacturing were largely due to increased activity in firms producing lumber products, pulp and paper, foodstuffs, chemical products, and printing and publishing establishments. Slumps are indicated in foundries and machine shops, shipbuilding, non-distilled beverages, and textile manufacturing. Civic officials have stated that although the current level of employment is relatively high, little industrial expansion of any great size is evident and this is the reason for stressing the need of expanded, or at least maintained, construction employment.

### Sydney

In the twelve months preceeding July 1, 1947, signs of industrial expansion in this area were negligible, and unemployment would have remained relatively stagnant if it were not for a movement of workers to more prosperous regions.

Employment in iron and steel manufacturing and coal mining was still 1,700 workers short of the pre-strike levels, but recent increases in coal mining employment and proposed expansion in iron and steel manufacturing will reduce this margin considerably. These industries have shown marked production increases since the strike in each and now are working at full capacity. Together, these industries supply steady jobs for about 15,000 men, but, at the same time they cannot provide jobs for the heavy surplus of workers existing since the war ended.

Wholesale trade shows a 50 per cent decrease in employment from July 1, 1946, which reflects dwindling buying power in the region which was due to decreased employment and the long strike in coal mines.

Employment slumps in other industries were for the most part comparatively minor. Nevertheless, aside from the two long-term industries, coal mining and iron and steel, there is little evidence of industrial expansion.

The most notable employment increase during the period occurred in shipping and water transportation; the Port of Sydney was much more active this summer than last, causing employment to increase by a substantial margin over the same time in 1946.

### QUEBEC REGION.....

Unplaced applicants 12,000 fewer than last year--The number of job seekers was remarkably steady during the month, despite the fact that seasonal industries were releasing labour. This steadiness, however, was largely illusory. A decline in the number of male applicants through the expansion of employment in the logging industry was offset by an increase in the number of female applicants.

The decrease of some 12,000 unplaced applicants from a year ago - a decrease almost totally amongst males - is the result of an expansion in employment over the year of about 11 per cent (or 60,000). Sixty per cent of the expansion was in non-manufacturing industries, with the construction industry as pace-setter. Employment in construction in mid-1947 was 24 per cent higher than in mid-1946. Although summer logging employment was much higher than a year ago, the delayed season this year makes such a comparison of employment erroneous. Activity in transportation and communication, and trade and service grew to a much less extent, but, nevertheless, employment in both industrial groups gained over 10 per cent.

Transfer of labour from agriculture to logging--With the completion of the harvest, many farmers now are beginning the Fall ploughing. Those who are free are going to woods employment and a few are seeking work in the towns. In some districts it has been found difficult to fill orders for farm workers because of the better wages offered in construction and bush work. The demand for agricultural labour, however, is quite low at present.



Logging season commences--Cutting has already begun in many areas in Quebec. Increasing numbers of men are going to the woods, but more men are needed on almost every operation. Most of the operators are asking for experienced men only, but the number of such men is limited. The size of the work force will likely be about what it was last year, but it appears to be expanding more quickly.

Manpower situation in mining unchanged--There has been no alleviation of the critical shortage of workers for the mining industry. Producing mines are much more seriously affected than mines in the early stages of development. Rouyn reports that to combat the shortage of machine men, some mines are training their own employees and are thus able to maintain some measure of production.

Manufacturing employment steady, production high--The heavy iron and steel industry is very busy; the C.P.R. has placed additional large orders for transportation equipment, the September contracts awarded to Montreal totalling \$4,600,000. Foundries are working at full capacity and the shortage of foundry workers is general.

The demand for lumber and pulp wood remains strong. Pulp and paper mills are working to capacity and newsprint production is still increasing, but a shortage of freight cars is delaying shipments.

Textile plants are busy, but are still operating at less than capacity because of the difficulty of securing additional workers. Clothing factories are employed with the usual seasonal upswing of work, but many shoe manufacturers are operating sporadically, both because of decreased demand and intermittent supplies of leather.

Furniture factories are still very active, but from Montreal comes the report that retail sales of furniture are poor and that credit sales are increasing.

New plant will provide employment in Hull area--Commerical Alcohols Limited is to establish a two and a half million dollar distillery in Gatineau, Quebec. The plant will make commercial alcohol from pulp mill waste obtained from Canadian International Paper Company's Gatineau Mill. It is expected to create a large number of employment opportunities in Gatineau and Hull.

#### Chicoutimi

The grain harvest now is completed and fall ploughing, aided by exceptionally fine weather, is advancing rapidly.

With the termination of agricultural activity, many farm labourers are accepting jobs in lumber camps, thus relieving the acute manpower shortage there.

Approximately 2,800 men are employed in logging and river driving operations in the Chicoutimi district. Orders have been placed with the local employment office for 1,200 additional woodsmen.

At the Aluminum Company of Canada, employment now tops the 6,300 mark, a decided jump from the September 1, 1946, employment figure of 4,500. Production facilities in this plant were expanded during September, providing jobs for 200 men. An additional 200 workers will be required in the near future to replace those men leaving Alcan to take jobs in the bush. Orders for these workers have been placed in clearance throughout the Quebec region.

### Montreal

The strike of packing-house workers has seriously hampered all meat-packing and slaughterhouse activity in the Montreal area, as in other centres. Some of the workers on strike have applied for jobs elsewhere, but to date the number has been very small. With the recent settlement of the strike, however, operations and employment will soon be back to normal.

The heavy iron and steel industry received added stimulus through recent large orders for railway cars. The Montreal Locomotive Company obtained a \$3,600,000 contract from the C.P.R. for 10 passenger cars and 12 heavy locomotives. The Canadian Car and Foundry Company has received C.P.R. contracts amounting to \$1,000,000. The latter company now has sufficient orders on hand to maintain present full production schedule until the end of 1948.

All glass manufacturing plants are working at capacity, hampered only by heavy labour turnover.

There is a continued shortage of operators throughout the secondary textile industry, but most particularly in children's wear manufacturing. Despite the fact that there are a number of applicants for textile work in the older age group, most employers refuse to hire women over forty, claiming that they are not adaptable to training on new machines and operations.

The service industry reports that help is more readily available now that the summer resorts are closed. Labour turnover in this industry, however, continues abnormally high.

### Quebec

Unplaced applicants reached a record post-war low during September. At the end of the month, male job-seekers numbered but 2,000, a drop of 6,000 since the beginning of 1947. The number of female applicants has varied only slightly since the first of the year.

Between January 1, and July 1, (the latest date for which figures are available) total reported employment in the Quebec labour market area showed a gain of 10 per cent. During that period, the greatest actual employment increases occurred in the following industries - shipbuilding, pulp and paper, animal food products, and water transportation. Field reports indicate that substantial gains also took place in agriculture and construction.

During the past month, two manufacturing plants situated at the new St. Malo industrial site commenced operations. The Canadian General Electric Company went into production with an initial staff of twelve; it is expected that this number will be increased to approximately 350 (300 women and 50 men) by the end of December. Wolsey Ltd. (knitted goods) now is operating with a staff of twenty, and it will be some time before this number is increased to any extent. When the numerous other manufacturing plants housed in the former St. Malo Arsenal building will be ready to operate depends largely on when the necessary machinery and equipment becomes available.



### Shawinigan Falls

The trend of employment in this area is mainly determined by four industries. The construction, chemical, aluminum, and pulp and paper industries, represent 83 per cent of total reported employment.

In the twelve months ending July 1, 1947, these four industries absorbed an additional 1,400 workers. This represented almost all of the employment increase in the area during the year.

The current employment expansion is the result of increased industrial activity in all main industries and, if anything, does not fully depict industrial expansion that has occurred inasmuch as all construction work is not completed.

The construction industry in this area boomed during 1947; employment increasing to about five times the July 1, 1946, level.

The chemical industry added about 150 workers to its staff, but a new plant in the plastics division and expansion in the industrial chemical section will provide additional jobs when completed.

The aluminum industry added 200 workers during the twelve months ending July 1, 1947, and production was continually increased during the year in certain lines now in demand.

The pulp and paper industry, in line with Canadian production, is working at capacity and employed 90 additional men during the period under review.

### Sherbrooke

General employment conditions in Sherbrooke are exceedingly good, but the major industry, textiles, has been handicapped by a shortage of workers. The secondary iron and steel industry, Sherbrooke's second most important, is also experiencing difficulty in securing labour.

The iron and steel industry does not compete for labour with the textile industry. Rather, the former must meet competition from the construction industry for unskilled workers and from the iron and steel industry in other areas for skilled workers.

Sherbrooke's steel industry has staged a remarkable growth in employment and production since 1939. At September 1, 1939, iron and steel employment numbered only 830, compared to 3,460 in textiles. By July 1, 1947, total iron and steel employment numbered 2,138, compared to 4,055 in textiles. In other words, the iron and steel industry expanded by 157 per cent from September 1, 1939, while the textile industry expanded by 17 per cent.

Employment in the textile industry shows a slight drop from July 1, 1946, due to conversion and modernization plans now in progress, and to labour turnover, which is reported as heavy. A conservative estimate of textile employment needs would indicate that this industry could provide about 1,000 persons with jobs if capacity production is maintained.

The textile industry in Sherbrooke, however, has voiced fears of overproduction in some lines and it is quite possible that, if this is the case, the number of workers required will be reduced.



### Three Rivers

Labour market conditions in Three Rivers showed a marked improvement during September. Grain harvesting operations provided many extra jobs in agriculture. Almost 100 persons were issued permits to help with potato picking in Maine. Renewed activity in the district lumber camps stepped up recruiting for wood cutters, river drivers, etc. Manufacturing (pulp and paper, textiles, iron and steel) is seasonally more active, and construction work is proceeding satisfactorily.

The heavy iron and steel industry (largely cast iron pipe and brake manufacturing) now employs more workers than at any time during the past year and a half. This industry is handicapped by shortages of materials, particularly scrap iron.

Although employment in the local paper mills is at a seasonal high, present staffs will be reduced within the next few months, as yard operations and other seasonal work is curtailed.

Employment in the logging industry on the other hand, now is on the upswing. The number of men engaged in logging operations in the St. Maurice district during the 1947-48 season is expected to exceed last season's record high of 8,400.

### Valleyfield

For the first time since before the war, Montreal Cottons Limited, the chief source of employment in Valleyfield, has sufficient female workers for the day shift. This is the result of an intensive recruiting campaign carried out in Quebec City and other towns and cities in the province having a surplus of female workers. The recent release of over 200 women from the War Assets repair depot has also helped relieve the labour shortage in the textile industry. At present, approximately 30 female workers are needed for night shift work at Montreal Cottons. Other local manufacturing plants are operating normally, with no labour shortages reported.

Long-standing vacancies for domestics, waitresses, and other service workers now are gradually being filled; this also is the result of staff reductions at War Assets.

With harvest operations complete, a number of farmers are seeking employment in other industries. There is little hope of placing these men locally as the construction field is already overcrowded and manufacturing firms are interested only in year-round workers.

### ONTARIO REGION.....

September turning point in trend of unplaced applicants—The number of applicants climbed by 1,700 during the month of September, the seasonal low being in the second week of the month, six weeks earlier than last year. Vacancies, however, still greatly outnumber applicants; about two jobs are being offered for every job seeker on the files of N.E.S. offices. Employment at August 1, over 12 per cent higher than it was a year ago, is at the highest level ever reached in Ontario. Every industry shares to some extent in this gain.

Some damage to crops, decreasing need for labour---Up to the last week of September, the weather was satisfactory for harvest operations. Wind damage and frost damage then hurt some crops. Frost damage to the tomato crop was the most serious. Flue cured tobacco was almost harvested, but it is estimated that 10 per cent of the crop was still out and damaged by frost. Damage to corn was general, lowering its value for feed considerably.

Silo filling is in progress, but the frozen corn has deteriorated fast. The damage to fodder corn, a short grain crop, and the increased price of feed stuffs, will have a reaction on the livestock industry in Ontario, and will tend to reduce the demand for winter workers. Farmers are also feeling the effect of the meat packers' strike, which is delaying the marketing of cattle.

During the month, the demand for farm labour in the special crop areas was very strong. But, by the end of the month, much of the demand had abated. Permanent farm hands are needed, but there are very few applicants in this occupation.

There continues to be a strong demand for help for the peach and apple harvest, and the grape harvest has yet to commence. There is a demand for men for vegetable farms.

Logging employment on seasonal up-turn---The demand and supply picture in pulpwood logging is in a state of flux. Operators are beginning to make known their labour requirements, but the extent of the supply of men will not be clear until the release of labour from agriculture and construction is well underway. It is probable that demand will be fairly easily met this year. Some companies have already met much of their requirements and decreased their orders because no further accommodation is available in their camps.

Mining demand for labour persists---The efforts to secure additional workers for the mines of Ontario continue with no great success. Gold mining is suffering to a greater extent than base metal mining. The latter appears to be able to offer more money to prospective employees.

Manufacturing employment continues to climb---Employment in the manufacturing industries is now 92 per cent of what it was at the war peak, having climbed by 67,000 from the post-war low at the end of 1945 when employment was only 81 per cent of the top war level.

Materials appear to be in better supply, although shortages of steel are still apparent in some areas. Shortages of fats and oils are seriously affecting paint and soap production, and the shortage of raw hides has depressed leather goods manufacturing.

Labour shortages in textiles have become increasingly acute, with turnover increasing as wages offered in other industries rise. Many plants are operating far below capacity. The lack of housing contributes to the difficulties of securing labour.

Furniture plants continue to ask for workers. Foundries are still short of labour. Factory workers, especially women, are required in most centres of manufacturing. More women will be available as the seasonal food industries release their employees, but, again, the lack of housing accommodation hinders an effective distribution of labour.



### Brantford

Demand for labour in the Brantford area continues to exceed the available supply by a wide margin, although it is somewhat lower than at the end of August, when food processing plants requirements were at a peak.

Agricultural implement manufacturing plants report a gradual easing of the acute shortage of heavy labourers, owing to the fact that farm workers now are accepting employment for the winter months. Other heavy industry in Brantford appears to be fairly well supplied with skilled and unskilled labour.

In the textile manufacturing field, the lack of machine operators and trainees shows no sign of diminishing. Young men are required to train as weavers (woollen and rayon) but, as most of the work is shift work, it is very difficult to find interested applicants.

A new company, the Leather Label Company Ltd., clothing manufacturers, will commence operations here shortly. Approximately thirty women to operate power machines will be required.

The construction industry is very active, and the demand for skilled workers, especially experienced carpenters, is strong. Work is to start shortly on 100 additional Wartime Housing units, which, when completed, will help relieve the acute shortage of accommodation.

### Hamilton

Labour demand, although strong, has eased somewhat during the past month. It is thought that this is a result of the movement of seasonal workers from farms and summer resorts to factory employment.

Production at the National Steel Company of Canada remains high; this company has a standing order with the local office for all available heavy labourers with the required physical qualifications. The National Steel Car Corporation recently received a \$6,750,000 contract from the C.P.R. for the manufacture of various types of railway rolling stock. Work on this contract will commence during October, at which time additional semi-skilled workers will be needed.

A new industrial plant has been established in Hamilton, the Rheem Manufacturing Company. This company will manufacture steel shipping containers, and expects to commence operations sometime in October. The initial staff will consist of 60 to 100 men.

Apart from the seasonally active food processing industry, the greatest need for female help is in the textile industry, where 400 experienced workers are needed immediately. All firms in the primary and secondary textile industries have been advised by the National Employment Service office to place orders for workers in regional and inter-regional clearance. The firm of Canadian Cottons, Ltd., is recruiting workers in Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie, after which the Cape Breton area in Nova Scotia will be canvassed for suitable applicants.

### Kingston

On the whole, labour market conditions in Kingston are favourable with employment in the heavy iron and steel industry showing an increase during September.



The Canadian Locomotive Company has started work on a contract to supply the Canadian Pacific Railway, with thirty locomotives. The staff is being increased gradually as work progresses, with approximately 200 extra men being taken on for the job. Delivery of the locomotives is scheduled to commence next April.

The Canadian Engineering and Shipbuilding Company has sufficient work on hand to keep the present staff of approximately 200 busy until next spring. At that time, it is hoped that steel supplies will have eased sufficiently to permit long delayed work to begin on the steamer "Kingston".

In the textile industry, Hield Brothers Ltd., manufacturers of serge and worsted cloth, have extended their plant facilities to include spinning operations instead of solely weaving as before. Approximately thirty women have been hired for the new spinning mill.

It was recently announced that the Weston Biscuit Company will build a factory in Kingston in the near future. The plant, to be erected in the north end of the city, will cost an estimated \$250,000 and will employ between 50 and 60 persons.

#### Kitchener - Waterloo

Of the twelve major industries in Kitchener-Waterloo, ten show employment expansion in the year ending July 1, 1947. All industries added 1,400 workers during these twelve months; manufacturing industry accounted for 79 per cent of the gain and the non-manufacturing industries 21 per cent.

Textile manufacturing plants are working steadily, but still require many female operators.

Construction of a large woollen textile factory in Elmira is to be started immediately. The plant will be the Canadian company of John Crowther & Son, Ltd., Huddersfield, Yorkshire, England. Construction will soon commence on this plant, which will occupy 50,000 to 100,000 square feet of floor space at the start, with the intention to increase the plant size to 200,000 square feet within a period of two years. Ultimately 300 to 500 workers will be employed.

The furniture industry is very active and is now producing better quality furniture. All plants are short of both skilled and semi-skilled male help, and female workers are required for radio cabinet work.

Local chemical plants continue to operate at capacity but production is still limited in some cases by shortages of some essential raw materials.

Earlier reports that the rubber industry would soon be over-producing in some lines are now substantiated by field reports that indicate peak production appears to have been reached. Labour requirements are satisfied for the first time in many months. Thus one of the largest sources of demand for labour in this area has finally tapered off.

#### London

The reduced tempo of production, which was evident in July and August, and resulting from seasonal influences such as vacation shut-downs, was followed by a marked up-turn in industrial activity during September. Indications point to a volume of manufacturing production and employment during the coming months which will top any previous record.

Of late, demand stemming from heavy iron and steel manufacturing has been proportionately less than in other manufacturing industries. As a result of recent upward adjustments in wage rates in heavy industry, labour turnover has been reduced, and fewer replacements are required. There is keen competition among employers in most other industries (the majority paying lower wages than iron and steel firms) for unskilled workers.

In the textile industry, labour shortages are becoming increasingly acute. One of the largest textile plants in the area has withdrawn its salesmen from the road until after the New Year, because of its inability to keep up with current orders. Another textile factory is using only 50 per cent of its machinery, because of the lack of manpower to operate it.

Local tanneries and shoe factories are, at present, hampered by shortages of labour and materials. It is expected that the settlement of the prevailing meat packing strike will bring about an improvement in the supply of raw hides, thus permitting production in the leather industry to be increased.

During the month of September, 82 building permits were issued in London the value of which totalled \$338,620. In comparison, during September 1946, 56 permits valued at \$164,040 were issued in this city. Although a large volume of industrial building, additions, and repair work is being carried on, it is reported that the number of new homes constructed during 1947 will be about 20 per cent below the number completed in 1946.

### Niagara Falls

During September, the number of job openings listed at the National Employment Service office showed a drop of over 60 per cent. The abnormally strong labour demand of a month ago stemmed from local canneries where operations were at a peak. Sufficient labour was obtained, and from all reports employment in the fruit and vegetable processing industry was well above the 1946 level.

There is still a shortage of labour for wine processing operations, and unless outside workers can be obtained, there is little hope of meeting labour requirements of the local wineries.

In the iron and steel industry, some curtailment of production occurred during September owing to shortages of materials. Staff reductions were negligible, however, and a few requests for skilled labour were received by the employment office.

Local abrasive and chemical plants are operating at a near-capacity level; the demand for heavy labour in these industries has not yet been filled. It is expected that this type of worker will be more readily available when the construction season ends.

The Canadian Cellucotton Products, Ltd., and the Spirella Company of Canada, the largest employers of female workers in the area, are having great difficulty in maintaining sufficient staff, because of the high rate of labour turnover. The situation has improved slightly since the summer, but is still serious.

Generally, peak employment in the Niagara Falls area is reached late in September, but it is expected that present favourable labour market conditions will hold at least for another month.



### Oshawa

Production at the General Motors of Canada plant continued at a high level during September. There has been a steady demand for automobile production workers throughout the month, with all orders readily filled locally.

The ten-week old strike of the 230 employees of the Robson Leather Company terminated on September 29. Due to the nature of the industry, full production cannot be resumed for at least two weeks or a month. The men are being recalled as they are needed, those with seniority rights returning to work first.

In the construction industry, local contractors report a heavy loss of workers through re-hiring at General Motors and the resuming of operations at the Robson Leather Company; quite a number of the idle automobile workers and men out on strike took jobs with construction companies, only to leave when the season was at its peak.

With the automobile industry more active than it has been for the past two years, the employment picture in the Oshawa labour market area is favourable. Unplaced applicants number less than half the January 1, 1947, total and further reductions are expected during the coming month.

### Peterborough

In the twelve months ending July 1, 1947, employment in Peterborough shows a marked gain in line with industrial expansion prevalent in this area. During this time manufacturing employment increased 12 per cent.

Four manufacturing industries accounted for 86 per cent of the total employment gain for the year. The electrical apparatus industry represented 30 of the increase, vegetable food products 23, iron and steel 22, and non-ferrous metals 11. The remaining 14 per cent of the total gain was scattered amongst other industries; three industrial groups failed to show any employment increase during the year--lumber products, leather products, and communications and transportation.

Practically all factories in this city are fully manned, except for a few skilled men. The Canada Packers plant is on strike with the exception of the cannery branch, leaving approximately 175 men idle. Many of these men have been placed on construction work and odd jobs.

Due to continued good weather, the construction industry is still very active. A local construction firm will soon commence to erect one hundred and twenty-five new houses.

Practically all veterans who are capable of working are employed at the present time. The few who are not working have serious physical disabilities but, even so, are being placed in jobs. Placements of veterans parallels placements of other workers at the present time.

### Sault Ste. Marie

A comparison of employment changes during a twelve month period ending July 1, 1947, shows a healthy increase in employment, with overall employment conditions at the present time exceedingly good. The actual employment increase of slightly over 500 men gives little indication of what the gain could have been if men were available to fill job openings and housing accommodation was available for them.



Total employment in this area is concentrated in a very small number of industries. Iron and steel, pulp and paper, and railway rolling stock manufacturing, plus retail and wholesale trade and construction represent 93 per cent of total reported employment.

Various types of labour, particularly general yard labourers, are in urgent demand by the Algoma Steel Corporation. This company intends to use women to make up for the lack of male labour, but women cannot fill jobs requiring heavy physical exertion. Some relief has been provided by the company securing permission to hire 50 men from Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Smelter labourers are also required in this industry.

There is a heavy demand for pulpwood cutters, and wage rates have been increased for the 1947-48 season. There are no experienced cutters available locally, and many transfers from other centres are reported as unsatisfactory, with no reason given. The coming season is expected to be one of the busiest in the history of logging, and demand will certainly far surpass the supply of men available.

A large number of transient labourers are reporting to the local employment office in search of work, and could readily be placed in employment in local industry, but board and room accommodation is very scarce.

#### St. Catharines

This year's cold wet spring has resulted in a below-normal fruit and vegetable crop. Owing to this, and to the fact that ripening was delayed by cool weather in the late summer and early fall, the labour needs of the local canneries have not been pressing. The grape crop, on the other hand, promises to be above average and employment in the wineries will be high.

Local textile plants are still attempting to build up their staffs in order to meet even minimum production schedules. Although a number of workers have been brought in from the Maritimes, this industry is still desperately short of labour.

Production in the pulp and paper industry continues at full capacity with employment well above that of any previous year.

Factories in the heavy iron and steel manufacturing category experienced the usual difficulty in keeping workers during the summer months. With the advent of cooler weather, however, depleted staffs are gradually being built up. Additional able-bodied men will soon be available as farm activity tapers off.

A local firm, which manufactures soil pipe and domestic heating equipment, is building an addition to its plant, as well as a staff house for the accommodation of single men. This firm will shortly require 50 additional men.

In the service occupations, the shortage of women shows no signs of easing. The supply of waitresses seems particularly inadequate. All industries, both manufacturing and non-manufacturing, report extremely heavy labour turnover, especially among single girls.

### Sudbury

The principal firm in Sudbury, the International Nickel Company Limited, whose operations include mining, smelting, and refining, has added 960 workers to its plant staff, and 1,257 workers in its local mines from July 1, 1946, to the same date this year.

The acute shortage of men for nickel mines, which has persisted for many months, now show signs of easing off; indications are that enough men for mining operations will finally be secured by the end of 1947. Most of these workers are from outside areas. This company has been hiring men from as far afield as the Maritimes and Alberta. It is quite likely that the labour supply is being built up by men seeking work for the winter in view of the forthcoming seasonal inactivity in other fields. This company's operations have been affected by an unusually high labour turnover and it remains to be seen just how stable the recent influx of workers will be.

Logging and pulp operations are now well underway and, to date, labour has been available to meet demand. It is reported that men attracted to the woods industry during the Department of Labour campaign in 1946 are staying at this type of work. Hiring, up to the present, is on a par with 1946, although turnover has not diminished to any extent.

While there are very few jobs for female workers in the area, the file of women out of work has been greatly reduced, partly through the procurement of jobs in outside areas. Many women from Sudbury have been sent to southern Ontario.

### Toronto

The Toronto area reflects the general employment situation in the Ontario region, since so much industrial and labour market activity is concentrated there. Labour scarcity plus lack of housing dominates the scene at present.

The manufacturing, finance, trade, and service industries located within this area cannot secure sufficient workers and the resulting competition has caused much labour turnover. The English immigrants are eagerly sought after, and they are apparently "sticking" to the city despite the shortage of housing. The latter now is so acute that the civic Board of Control has been advertising across the country in order to warn persons not to come to Toronto.

In addition to supplying the labour needs of Toronto firms, this area has always been tapped for workers by the mining, logging, and construction industries throughout the Ontario region. Base metal and gold mining companies in the north continue to register orders for mine beginners; base metals offer transportation and 96 cents per hour wages--gold mines, 78 cents per hour, no transportation. Labour demand in logging is picking up and most companies will arrange for transportation.

Textile, furniture, container, rubber and brick firms, machine shops and most metal industries, are some of the manufacturing groups in greatest need of labour.

University students returning to their studies have left quite a gap, especially in construction. With the end of the meat packing strike, further vacancies will be left in the construction industry, for many strikers had taken temporary work in this field.



### Welland

A seasonal decline in unfilled vacancies appeared in September, but labour demand still exceeds supply in this area. When a temporary breakdown occurred recently at Page Hersey Tubes, Ltd., none of the 150 men laid-off filed claims for unemployment insurance benefits since they were able to find work elsewhere.

Most of the unplaced male applicants are in the older age brackets or unable to meet employers' specifications involving heavy work. Female unplaced applicants are difficult to place--the only factory jobs available are in canning plants, due to close before the end of October. Office work is chiefly for single girls, while many of the applicants are married women. Also, in most cases the wages offered do not compare well with the wages paid by previous employers.

In the textile industry, the Woods Manufacturing Company, has acquired 55 unskilled workers from Nova Scotia, but still needs skilled employees.

Steel shortages are holding up heavy manufacturing plants. The Haun Drop Forge Company has cancelled plans for a night shift because of this; steel ordered in October, 1946, for delivery in January, 1947, has yet to arrive. Page Hersey Tubes, Ltd., operates from day to day, as long overdue steel shipments trickle in. Better than normal production is reported by Atlas Steels, Ltd., however, and hourly production workers are 1,000 more than just four months ago.

Labour turnover is still high in the rubber industry, but the Joseph Stokes Rubber Company reports that employment is the highest in its history.

Construction work should be sufficient during the winter to provide employment for all skilled tradesmen, according to most contractors.

### Windsor

Windsor's employment shows a greater pattern of fluctuation than most Canadian cities. It is the centre of the Canadian automobile industry, which is prone to wide upswings and downswings in employment. The level of the area's prosperity generally reflects the activity of this industry and its associated supplier plants.

Employment conditions have been steadily improving since the post-war reconversion slump. The problem of unemployment has remained greater for women since employment expansion has more directly affected men. Men continue to come to Windsor from outside points at the rate of about 60 per week, attracted by the relatively high wage scales in the area, and can usually be absorbed if they have any skill.

Currently, the recent steel strike settlement in the U.S.A. will stimulate automobile production when supplies improve. In the meantime, however, because of steel shortages, several major lay-offs have occurred--1,800 men at Chrysler Motors, 300 at General Motors, etc. Most of these men are scheduled to be back to work by the third week of October.

Construction work is at its peak, and skilled tradesmen, particularly carpenters, are in demand; tradesmen are transferred from one contractor to another according to the progress of their projects, Canning factories have completed their seasonal output and orders for workers have ceased.



## PRAIRIE REGION.....

High level of labour demand begins to subside--The number of unplaced applicants in the Prairie region reached its low point in the second week of September. This was about one week earlier than in 1946, and there were 6,000 fewer applicants than at last year's low. Labour has commenced to move out of agriculture and construction into logging and some manufacturing industries, and the drift to B.C. for winter employment has started.

Agriculture's peak labour demand passed by end of September--The peak of agricultural labour requirements in Manitoba was passed in the first week of the month. Men were gradually sent westward to Alberta and Saskatchewan, the movement being delayed somewhat by bad weather in Alberta and parts of Saskatchewan. In few areas was there any serious lack of workers. Saskatchewan passed the peak of the demand for labour about the end of the month; Alberta was somewhat later.

The sugar beet harvest was underway in Manitoba by the end of the month, that in Alberta a little earlier. The labour supply was adequate, with Polish veterans being employed on the harvest, and a few eastern harvesters also.

A considerable movement of agricultural labour has been handled by National Employment Service offices, in addition to that of the wheat harvesters. About 1,000 potato pickers were sent from border areas in Manitoba to adjacent districts in North Dakota. Arrangements for similar transfers of beet workers and potato pickers from Saskatchewan to various districts in adjoining States have also been made.

Pulpwood logging estimates labour need for coming season--Although there will be no great increase in the hiring of bush workers until the beginning of November, some estimates of labour needs have been made. The Port Arthur local office reports that pulpwood operators in that area set labour requirements at 8,000 men, in addition to the displaced persons that will be working in the camps this season. In the Kenora district the operators will need from 1,200 to 1,300 men. Orders for winter bush labourers are being placed earlier than usual in northern Manitoba. Applications for work are also being received somewhat earlier than usual, especially in those areas in Saskatchewan where the harvest was poor. Although there is yet some difficulty in finding experienced men, the numbers of men available for the woods will be greatly augmented with the coming of cold weather and the further slackening of work in agriculture and construction.

Miners and mine labourers needed in all branches of the mining industry--The Steep Rock Iron Mines continue to need highly skilled labour as well as unskilled labourers. It is expected that manpower requirements in the new year will be noticeably increased. The housing project at this mine is well underway, and will continue early in the new year when weather conditions permit.

Gold mines in the Little Long Lac area are seeking 100 mine beginners in the Maritimes. Seventy experienced miners are also required.

Certificated coal miners and labourers for surface and underground work are in continued demand at all points in Alberta. Blairmore reports that payrolls and production are decreasing because of the lack of labour. Employers are seriously alarmed at the payroll reduction, separations being in no measure balanced by hirings.

Some decline in manufacturing activity--The large meat packing plants of the region have been closed by strikes during almost all of September. Packers are expecting a heavy run of stock when the plants re-open, with a resultant heavy demand for labour. Above normal activity will probably last several months. In those plants not strike-bound the labour demand has been great.

Paper box manufacturing has been reduced considerably because of the packing-house strike. Small layoffs have resulted.

Vegetable canning plants have about completed the season's operations, and shut-downs have begun.

Approach of cold weather causes increased speed-up in building--All efforts are being directed towards completing outside work on construction projects before winter sets in so that interior work can proceed throughout the winter. Shortages of materials (cement, glass, steel, certain grades of lumber) continue to slow construction. Many skilled tradesmen are urgently needed, with the demand for carpenters, bricklayers, electricians, plasterers, and painters being the most insistent. Orders for unskilled labour are difficult to fill. The supply of such workers was greatly lessened during the harvest season and the present demand has been greatly increased by the effort to close up all partly finished structures.

#### Edmonton

Improved weather conditions have resulted in a flood of orders for agricultural workers. About 100 Ontario harvesters arrived and have been placed in jobs. In addition, a considerable number of the packing plant workers who are on strike have been hiring out directly to farmers. Over 400 men have been placed in farm work during September.

The strike in the three larger meat packing plants of the area involves about 1,230 men. Although the independent plants of Gainers and Chester Gainers are still operating, a strike vote has been taken at the latter.

Over 100 workers of the Hayward Lumber Company are still out on a strike which commenced on August 29.

Construction work is very active with considerable difficulty being experienced in securing enough skilled workers to fill all needs. Imperial Oil is starting a new housing venture south-west of Edmonton to house 200 families from the Leduc-Calmor oil field. Labour requirements for the dismantling of the oil refinery at Whitehorse, its transportation to Edmonton, and the re-erection of the plant at Edmonton, will be recruited in Edmonton. The work is expected to last from eighteen months to two years.



Fort William - Port Arthur

The year 1947 has witnessed a growth and stabilization of manufacturing employment which was not evident in 1946. While year-round employment opportunities are not as numerous as might be desired, workers now employed in manufacturing are, for the most part, working full time. Manufacturing industry absorbed 920 additional workers from July 1, 1946, to the same date this year; two-thirds of these workers were employed by the pulp and paper and lumber industries.

Pulp and paper mills employ by far the largest number of men in manufacturing industry. The number of mills has increased during the year, as well as employment in the industry.

Saw mills have doubled employment since July 1, 1946, and employment has been well maintained throughout the summer. The supply of workers has been sufficient to fill local saw-mill needs, in addition to filling some of the demand from mills in British Columbia. Lumber supplies come nearer to being adequate now than at any time since the war, and thus no curtailment in saw-mill operations is in sight. Employment will drop seasonally for the winter; next year's employment level will depend largely on the amount of construction work underway.

Winnipeg

Employment in non-manufacturing industry (construction, trade and service, communications, transportation, etc.) has expanded more than that in manufacturing industries since July 1, 1946.

Neither increase, however, has been great. In comparison with other Canadian cities with a population of over 100,000, Winnipeg's employment expansion is small.

Unplaced applicants are, nevertheless, considerably below last year's level. Vacancies on file almost equal the number of applicants, with vacancies for women slightly in excess of the number of female applicants.

It is reported that the demand for unskilled labour and for skilled tradesmen in both primary and secondary manufacturing exceeds the supply. Those industries making the goods used by the construction industry are, however, adequately supplied with labour. The chief hold-up in production is the shortage of glass in sash and door manufacturing.

The construction industry is very busy and the demand for general labourers and skilled men is heavy. Some of the larger construction companies have enough commercial work to last them up to three years, and most contractors have enough work to keep them busy for another year. Home building, however, is encountering difficulties through the prolonged labour and material shortages and the inability of the average working man to build a home at current prices. It is felt that these difficulties will hold back housing construction next year. Small contractors will likely feel the greatest effects of the slump, and repercussions will be felt in the construction goods manufacturing industries which sell their products to contractors building houses rather than to those undertaking industrial and commercial construction.



PACIFIC REGION.....

Seasonal decline of employment--During September, employment in this region began its decline from the seasonal peak reached near the first of the month. The main cause was the release of some workers by the canning and food processing industry. The number of unfilled vacancies had begun to decrease by the second week of September; in the third week the number of unplaced applicants began to increase from the year's low. This indication of an uptrend in unemployment came more than a month earlier than last year. There are several reasons for the increased number of people looking for jobs. The crop season was earlier this year and has resulted in an earlier release of pickers and cannery workers. The fishing catch has been lighter and fish cannery workers are being released. Unsettled labour conditions in manufacturing (strikes in meat packing, iron and steel, and furniture manufacturing) have decreased employment opportunities. In addition, the post-harvest influx of workers from the Prairies has begun, with a consequent swelling of the numbers of job-seekers.

Logging employment continues to climb--A slight seasonal increase in the number of jobs in the logging industry brought employment by the end of September to the highest figure yet reached. Production has been expanded as much as the labour supply will permit. Although the need for key personnel continues, there has been a lessening in demand for the unskilled and semi-skilled workers, partly because of the recent importation of Maritimers by representatives of the major British Columbia logging operators, and partly because of the arrival of workers from the Prairies.

The extent of the demand for labour in the logging industry is not shown by the number of unfilled vacancies reported to National Employment Service offices or by the number of "placements" made in the industry. The reason for this is that the coast logging industry makes extensive use of "loggers' agencies" in Vancouver. Men looking for jobs apply at these agencies and are sent, if suitable, to one of the camps connected with the agency.

Mining labour from Prairies--Labour turnover in base metal mines remains a problem, causing a high, sustained demand for workers. Labour from the Prairies and the closing of seasonal mines prevents the demand from becoming critical.

Several of the large gold mine operators have been recruiting labour on the Prairies, with some success but, the housing situation hinders any great expansion, even though workers could be found.

The closing of placer mining for the season will release labour useful to the lode mines.

Slight decline in demand for construction labour--Although it is likely that construction activity will keep on a higher than usual level throughout the winter, there has been a lessening in the amount of work being done. Uncertainty as to the supply and cost of labour and of materials is delaying many projects that have been planned.

Labour unrest disturbs various industries---September saw the beginning of three strikes, one of furniture factory workers, another of meat packing plant workers, and another of steel workers, as well as the continuation of a strike of iron and steel workers which began at the end of August. The wage demands in the logging negotiations of the summer set the pattern for the current strike wage demands - a 12½ cents an hour increase has been mentioned in each case.

The increasing number of labour disputes, which have not yet resulted in strikes, has also depressed the labour market. The general uneasiness about present and future operations operate to cancel any demand for labour in the industries directly affected, and also in the industries which may be indirectly affected by a strike.

#### Vancouver

Total employment in Vancouver is currently only about 5 per cent below the wartime peak, reached at about July 1, 1943. Although this is the case, a major shift in the distribution of employment has occurred since the end of the war. Counteracting a drop of 50 per cent in employment in manufacturing industries has been a rise of about 72 per cent in the employment of workers in non-manufacturing industries, such as trade, service, construction, and communications.

The drop in manufacturing employment, of course, was due to the great scaling down of activities in the aircraft and shipbuilding fields. Other manufacturing industries as a matter of fact, such as those producing lumber products, electrical apparatus, textiles, and wood products, have actually shown an increase in employment since the end of the war.

Against this background, the current labour market situation in Vancouver shows activity as being just past its seasonal peak. As yet, there is little unemployment, but the high labour turnover, a characteristic of "full employment", has shown definite slackening. In addition, some lay-offs have occurred in the food canning industry. A certain amount of labour unrest is adding to the number of workers looking for jobs. Finally, some workers are drifting back to Vancouver from the Prairies.

With respect to opportunities for employment, there are many out-of-town jobs open for both skilled and unskilled workers at relatively high wages. In Vancouver itself, many industries are reporting labour shortages. Sawmills continue to operate at full capacities with resulting shortages of key personnel such as millwrights and sawyers. The majority of textile firms are busy with no material shortages in operation at present. Labour turnover in this industry continues high. Tailors, needle workers, and power machine operators are scarce.

The volume of local construction projects have decreased slightly, but there is still a demand for skilled tradesmen. There are many jobs open for all types of restaurant help, but applicants are not available. The same situation holds true for domestic help. Good wages are being offered in some cases for household workers.





# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

## A Key to the Area Tables

The area tables present statistical data on the labour market in 38 selected areas. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in each area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

The areas are classified according to the number of unplaced applicants registered with the local National Employment Service office. The classification is based on a ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 wage and salary workers at work.

An "unplaced applicant" at any particular moment is a person who is registered at an office of the National Employment Service who has either not been placed in a job by the employment service or for whom the employment service has had no notification of his obtaining a job on his own. It is obvious, therefore, that the number of unplaced applicants are not indicative of the total volume of unemployment in any area. In the first place, not all workers who are seeking jobs will register with N.E.S. It is probable that most of those covered by unemployment insurance will do so in order to collect unemployment insurance benefits if their period of unemployment is sufficiently long. But many workers, do not come within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Act. Second, some workers who register with N.E.S. may be wanting merely to change jobs. At the time of registration, therefore, these workers would be already employed. Third, employment service regulations provide that when a worker registers for a job another contact need not necessarily be made with him by the employment service until 30 days have passed. If the worker obtains a job on his own during this period, the employment service may not be notified of this. In other words a worker may still be counted as an unplaced applicant despite the fact that he now has a job. Finally a worker may register for work at more than one local employment office. When this occurs there is the possibility that the same person may be counted twice as an unplaced applicant.

These qualifications in the meaning of the term "unplaced applicant" should be clearly borne in mind by any person who makes use of the term. They are due to the fact that the principal functions of the National Employment Service is to match jobs to workers, not to collect statistics. But they do not render such statistics useless. At present, there is no statistical information available on the total volume of unemployment by area. This being the case, the number of unplaced workers registered with a local N.E.S. office is a very important fact to consider when evaluating labour market conditions in a particular area. It is in this spirit that figures on unplaced applicants are presented in the following tables.

In order to ascertain the relative level of unplaced applicants in various local office areas, this figure has been related to an estimate of the total number of wage and salary workers at work in each area. In other words, the number of unplaced applicants is compared with the size of the particular area as measured by the number of wage and salary workers at work.

In addition these ratios have been consolidated into four groups denoting four different general labour market situations:

Group I--Areas in which there are more than 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the Mid-Thirties.

Group II--Areas in which there are between 150 and 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group is characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III--Areas in which there are from 50 to 150 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV--Areas in which there are under 50 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Favourable, in the sense that it is comparable to conditions during the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be clearly understood that the above ratio is only a general method of classifying labour market conditions as they are pictured by the local N.E.S. office. The ratio attempts to do no more than that. It attempts to do just that because it is felt that labour market conditions in a particular local employment service office are an important fact in the overall employment situation.

The area tables present additional material relative to the current demand - supply picture. Definitions of some of the terms used are given below:

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities insofar as employers do not report vacancies to the employment service. "Jobs available during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but should indicate the trend of labour demand in comparison with figures for previous periods.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the employment service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer to N.E.S.

Note: Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Pointe-aux-Trembles, St. Paul

l'Ermite, Verdum, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney, Sydney Mines.

Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT OCTOBER 1, 1947

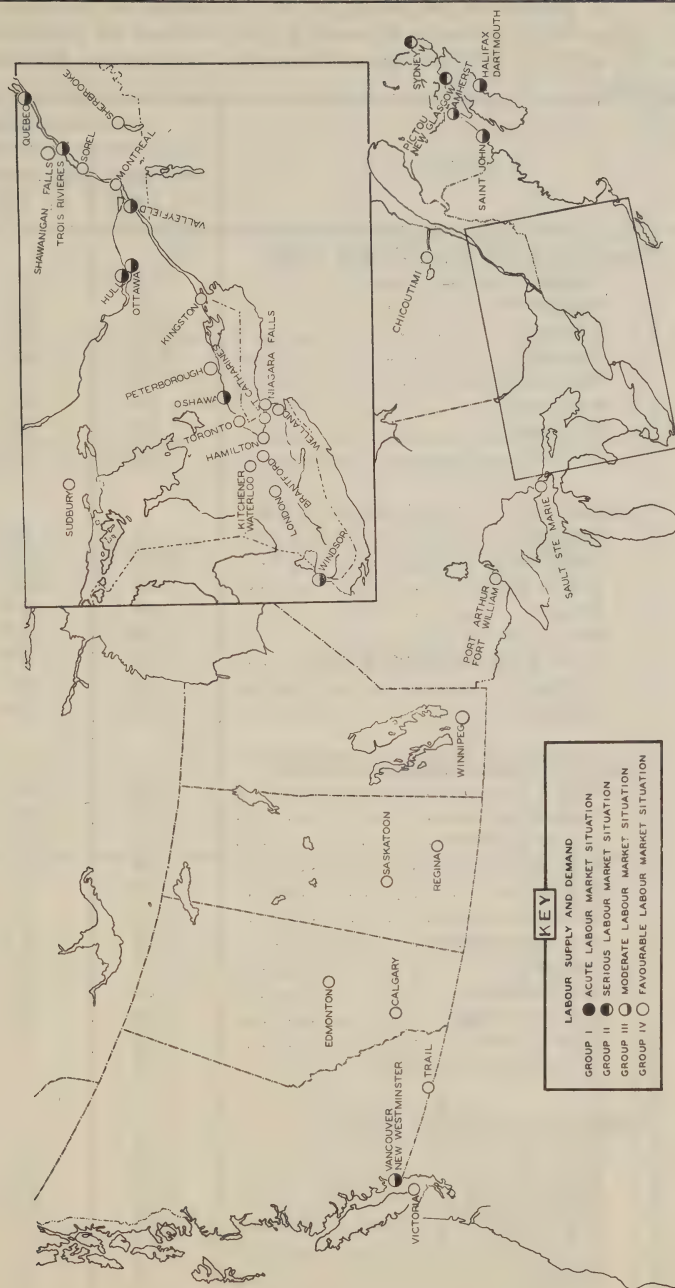




Table I--Index of Areas Analyzed in this Section

Note: The thirty-eight areas below are arranged according to the number of unplaced applicants in each as at the end of September, 1947, in descending order. Comparable ratings are also given for two previous selected dates.

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		October 1, 1947	September 1, 1947	October 1, 1946
	<u>Population of 100,000 and over</u>			
54	Quebec.....	III	III	III
63	Vancouver.....	III	III	III
61	Windsor.....	III	IV	II
58	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
61	Winnipeg.....	IV	IV	IV
56	Hamilton.....	IV	IV	III
53	Montreal.....	IV	IV	IV
60	Toronto.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 50,000 to 100,000</u>			
52	Sydney.....	II	II	II
51	Halifax.....	III	III	III
52	Saint John.....	III	III	III
62	Calgary.....	IV	IV	IV
62	Edmonton.....	IV	IV	IV
56	Fort William-Port Arthur.....	IV	IV	III
57	London.....	IV	IV	IV
61	Regina.....	IV	IV	III
	<u>Population of 25,000 to 50,000</u>			
53	Hull.....	III	III	III
58	Oshawa.....	III	III	II
55	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
57	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
63	Victoria.....	IV	IV	IV
62	Saskatoon.....	IV	IV	IV
59	St. Catharines.....	IV	IV	IV
60	Sudbury.....	IV	IV	IV
56	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
59	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
54	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
57	Kitchener-Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of under 25,000</u>			
52	New Glasgow-Pictou.....	II	II	I
51	Amherst.....	III	III	III
55	Valleyfield.....	III	III	III
54	Shawinigan Falls.....	IV	IV	III
60	Welland.....	IV	IV	III
55	Sorel.....	IV	IV	III
53	Chicoutimi.....	IV	IV	III
63	Trail.....	IV	IV	IV
59	Sault Ste. Marie.....	IV	IV	III
58	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	IV

Item	Canada			Amherst			Halifax		
	Sept(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)....	28	28	51	109	122	126	76	70	70
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled Vacancies, first of month.....	110,859	91,961	119,469	12	26	33	945	1,022	1,429
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	138,862	134,272	178,246	46	48	53	1,102	1,377	1,808
3. Total jobs available during month.....	249,711	226,233	297,715	58	74	86	2,045	2,399	3,237
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	66,713	61,357	72,431	33	42	57	598	783	1,032
% casual placements.....	15.5	11.2	8.2	-	-	-	12.9	7.4	4.0
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	110,028	110,889	139,664	2	12	17	724	943	1,226
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month....	85,912	98,967	144,619	390	333	414	2,764	3,127	2,986
% Female.....	30.1	29.9	21.2	10.8	15.3	23.9	15.8	16.5	13.1
% Veterans.....	25.1	22.7	34.2	25.1	27.9	51.4	40.7	35.6	40.0
% Veterans unplaced 15 days or more..	16.0	15.4	23.2	21.8	21.9	45.2	31.2	27.5	23.2
Occupational distribution, Females.									
% professional, clerical & Sales...	55.7	53.4	49.5	78.6	76.5	57.9	45.7	48.7	47.3
% service & other.....	15.3	14.5	14.1	4.8	7.8	7.4	38.4	36.7	36.3
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	13.2	13.6	17.2	7.1	9.8	24.2	7.1	5.5	5.6
% unskilled.....	15.8	18.5	19.2	9.5	5.9	10.5	7.8	9.1	10.8
2. Applicants registered during month.....	124,363	105,840	149,554	131	197	194	1,851	1,652	2,486
3. Total workers available during month...	210,275	204,807	294,173	521	530	608	4,615	4,779	5,472
% referred.....	52.3	46.6	38.2	9.2	13.2	17.9	23.9	27.3	33.6
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	87,236	85,912	142,200	348	350	390	3,015	2,764	2,957
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	3,100	3,072	2,798	-	3,200	3,100	-	39,500	42,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	36.50	32.72	-	-	-	-	32.81	29.25

X Figures subject to revision.

Note:-- Figures for Canada re wage and salary workers are in thousands.

Item	New Glasgow & Pictou		Sydney		Saint John	
	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	171	207	168	175	56	64
<b>Jobs:</b>						
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month....	44	82	138	92	608	669
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	437	531	546	820	798	965
3. Total jobs available during month.....	481	613	684	912	1,406	1,634
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	390	496	503	733	558	590
% casual placements.....	13.1	3.8	23.9	10.0	18.3	9.2
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	50	44	43	138	511	608
<b>Workers:</b>						
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month....	1,472	1,506	3,296	3,600	1,736	2,240
% female.....	12.2	11.8	13.8	14.4	6.3	6.4
% veterans.....	33.7	46.8	28.4	33.0	40.4	42.3
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.	26.8	40.6	26.3	30.0	31.7	33.3
Occupational distribution, females:						
% professional, clerical & sales....	66.7	64.0	74.1	73.6	57.3	53.1
% service & other.....	13.9	12.4	11.0	10.2	17.3	22.4
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	4.4	4.5	2.2	1.2	3.6	-
% unskilled.....	15.0	19.1	12.7	15.0	21.8	24.5
2. Applicants registered during month....	765	788	1,496	1,248	1,282	1,181
3. Total workers available during month..	2,237	2,294	4,792	4,848	3,018	3,421
% referred.....	27.5	36.3	23.9	24.8	31.0	28.5
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	1,217	1,472	3,154	3,296	1,522	1,736
<b>Employment:</b>						
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	7,100	-	18,800	-	27,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	30.63

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	20	25	119	113	102	115	17	16	28
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	676	777	979	257	343	240	16,044	13,841	19,486
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,473	864	1,253	832	381	686	17,056	15,070	15,513
3. Total jobs available during month.....	2,149	1,641	2,232	1,089	724	926	33,100	28,911	34,981
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	466	388	225	193	160	150	7,430	6,152	6,154
% casual placements.....	0.2	-	0.9	4.1	-	-	11.3	9.8	6.7
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	1,396	676	1,193	739	257	600	15,615	16,044	20,696
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month....	246	199	789	1,023	1,194	1,464	7,916	8,586	13,513
% female.....	50.4	48.2	35.4	53.4	48.3	16.1	19.8	20.8	12.6
% veterans.....	2.0	6.5	10.8	16.3	12.8	32.9	19.3	18.2	21.6
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more..	0.4	4.0	6.7	15.2	12.3	29.0	11.9	12.9	8.6
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	68.5	71.1	71.8	61.9	62.9	55.5	44.4	46.2	40.7
% service & other.....	8.1	14.4	9.7	7.7	6.9	16.1	19.1	14.0	23.3
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	20.2	12.4	18.5	9.0	10.4	8.9	17.5	18.6	11.7
% unskilled.....	3.2	2.1	-	21.4	19.8	19.5	19.0	21.2	24.3
2. Applicants registered during month.....	254	311	661	726	626	548	12,982	10,573	20,023
3. Total workers available during month....	500	510	1,450	1,749	1,820	2,012	20,898	19,159	33,536
% referred.....	41.2	48.6	17.7	24.1	17.9	18.8	58.7	50.9	33.8
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	195	246	868	1,126	1,023	1,090	8,527	7,916	13,421
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	10,000	7,300	-	10,000	9,500	-	438,600	431,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34.92	32.39

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	61	62	117	45	40	84	8	7	13
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled Vacancies, first of month....	2,123	1,687	1,612	62	23	27	383	285	382
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	2,835	2,777	3,124	279	272	643	690	728	645
3. Total jobs available during month.....	4,948	4,464	4,736	341	295	670	1,073	1,013	1,027
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	1,570	1,264	1,111	206	196	327	350	341	382
% casual placements.....	0.3	-	0.1	-	-	-	11.7	9.7	10.5
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	1,954	2,123	2,155	56	62	296	381	383	378
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month....	4,720	5,242	8,393	553	545	970	144	202	271
% Female.....	48.3	43.5	37.7	64.0	60.9	33.7	31.9	32.7	20.3
% Veterans.....	9.4	10.5	21.3	2.0	2.9	13.1	21.5	10.4	32.8
% Veterans unplaced 15 days or more..	7.0	8.3	16.6	1.8	2.6	12.8	6.3	5.0	24.7
Occupational distribution, Females.									
% professional, clerical & Sales....	39.3	38.8	37.1	47.7	44.3	39.0	63.0	57.6	50.9
% service & other.....	13.3	13.4	12.1	3.7	4.2	6.4	17.4	18.2	29.1
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	21.2	22.2	32.0	38.4	40.4	54.6	8.7	19.7	12.7
% unskilled.....	26.2	25.6	18.8	10.2	11.1	-	10.9	4.5	7.3
2. Applicants registered during month.....	4,242	3,273	4,180	519	396	550	554	444	632
3. Total workers available during month..	8,962	8,515	12,573	1,072	941	1,520	698	646	903
% referred.....	42.3	34.5	16.8	29.3	30.8	23.9	81.7	82.7	66.2
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	4,616	4,720	7,855	620	553	887	165	144	264
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	75,700	67,200	-	13,800	10,600	-	20,000	19,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	31.66	28.23	-	-	-	-	29.90	28.04

X Figures subject to revision.

Item	Sorel			Three Rivers			Valleyfield		
	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	29	34	71	55	90	82	66	75	273
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	188	131	50	190	256	140	227	228	28
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	292	294	396	590	400	817	335	302	737
3. Total jobs available during month.....	480	425	446	780	656	957	562	530	765
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	196	196	94	337	152	347	186	179	363
% casual placements.....	-	-	-	0.6	1.3	-	-	-	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	112	188	140	248	190	265	174	227	384
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	342	263	616	3,462	4,038	2,974	477	417	1,124
% female.....	13.7	19.8	17.0	13.6	15.0	21.6	47.4	50.1	28.4
% veterans.....	5.8	10.3	10.4	8.2	8.8	15.4	5.5	7.7	14.1
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more..	4.7	5.3	9.6	7.0	8.0	11.0	4.8	4.8	10.9
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	51.1	53.8	52.4	36.5	34.0	27.4	11.1	8.2	9.4
% service & other.....	12.8	15.4	7.6	11.1	9.6	11.7	2.2	3.8	3.1
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	34.0	25.0	17.1	31.2	32.5	45.8	40.7	48.8	52.4
% unskilled.....	2.1	5.8	22.9	21.2	23.9	15.1	46.0	39.2	35.1
2. Applicants registered during month.....	310	373	356	752	502	1,364	354	401	630
3. Total workers available during month...	652	636	972	4,214	4,540	4,338	831	818	1,754
% referred.....	39.7	37.7	12.1	17.0	10.3	12.5	32.4	28.7	31.4
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	298	342	560	2,116	3,462	3,115	423	477	791
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	10,200	7,900	-	38,400	38,200	-	6,400	2,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	36.77	31.92	-	-	-

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Brantford			Ft. William & Pt. Arthur			Hamilton		
	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	17	12	20	20	22	74	25	17	76
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled Vacancies, first of month...	1,033	583	787	4,192	3,793	7,576	4,460	2,549	1,523
2. Vacancies notified during month....	773	1,080	1,020	3,633	2,484	5,160	4,089	4,981	3,137
3. Total jobs available during month....	1,806	1,663	1,807	7,825	6,277	12,736	8,549	7,530	4,660
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	278	333	389	715	751	1,127	2,119	1,878	1,351
% casual placements.....	11.1	24.0	8.2	-	1.3	-	17.5	14.9	13.5
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month....	807	1,033	706	4,503	4,192	8,500	4,255	4,460	1,640
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.	228	226	345	616	780	1,994	1,552	2,317	5,293
% female.....	46.5	55.8	40.0	54.1	4.0	39.5	33.3	27.7	25.5
% veterans.....	28.9	15.5	23.2	19.6	10.8	19.3	35.4	31.3	35.1
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	15.4	7.5	15.7	4.2	6.2	7.4	18.4	10.4	19.4
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales..	34.9	31.7	46.3	82.3	84.6	81.5	43.3	40.4	31.8
% service & other.....	16.0	19.1	21.6	7.8	7.1	10.5	21.5	18.9	12.5
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	19.8	15.9	6.7	9.3	7.8	5.7	8.7	8.3	12.4
% unskilled.....	29.3	33.3	25.4	0.6	0.5	2.3	26.5	32.4	43.3
2. Applicants registered during month..	671	568	561	1,151	1,094	1,742	4,106	3,036	3,832
3. Total workers available during month	899	794	906	1,767	1,874	3,756	5,658	5,353	9,125
% referred.....	62.8	63.1	55.2	51.3	49.9	34.0	77.0	68.7	32.9
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month...	314	228	326	560	616	1,740	2,177	1,552	5,207
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	18,300	16,300	-	27,400	23,500	-	88,700	68,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	39.83	35.63	-	37.78	32.62

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Kingston			Kitchener-Waterloo			London		
	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed) ..	37	40	32	4	3	8	16	16	24
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month...	341	244	342	1,355	1,156	799	1,969	1,476	1,603
2. Vacancies notified during month....	675	780	1,138	928	1,109	1,135	2,156	2,067	3,234
3. Total jobs available during month...	1,016	1,024	1,480	2,283	2,265	1,934	4,125	3,543	4,837
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	488	456	610	342	325	345	991	939	1,195
% casual placements.....	2.9	2.9	1.0	7.0	5.2	1.4	12.3	11.7	11.6
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month....	307	341	418	1,249	1,355	925	2,031	1,969	2,082
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.	717	772	532	111	122	267	570	719	764
% female.....	20.2	23.1	28.4	12.6	10.7	19.5	31.1	29.5	24.7
% veterans.....	30.1	28.9	30.1	36.0	17.2	41.9	28.4	19.9	29.6
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more	27.8	25.8	25.2	6.3	4.9	11.2	9.1	8.5	12.4
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales...	63.4	59.6	53.6	71.4	61.5	50.0	39.5	37.3	42.3
% service & other.....	13.8	16.9	16.6	-	23.1	23.1	37.3	37.3	30.2
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	8.3	7.8	2.0	7.2	-	1.9	9.6	11.8	6.9
% unskilled.....	14.5	15.7	27.8	21.4	15.4	25.0	13.6	13.6	20.6
2. Applicants registered during month...	788	735	963	492	356	506	1,444	1,210	1,950
3. Total workers available during month	1,505	1,507	1,495	603	478	773	2,014	1,929	2,714
% referred.....	53.7	48.7	72.8	98.2	90.4	83.3	91.6	79.5	73.6
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month....	660	717	594	155	111	244	576	570	781
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	17,800	18,500	-	39,400	29,400	-	35,800	32,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	35.82	30.63	-	34.41	30.84
x Figures subject to revision.									

Item	Niagara Falls				Oshawa				Ottawa			
	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	13	17	14	66	73	178	52	57	53			
Jobs:												
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	705	313	1,058	468	421	402	1,856	1,482	1,656			
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	600	767	1,050	1,184	719	823	2,220	2,445	2,694			
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,305	1,080	2,108	1,622	1,140	1,225	4,076	3,927	4,350			
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	365	204	608	694	421	408	1,049	812	972			
% casual placements.....	2.2	2.0	0.2	1.6	2.4	0.5	33.6	15.8	-			
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	263	705	576	709	468	527	1,391	1,856	1,783			
Workers:												
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	316	329	389	1,381	2,450	3,726	3,543	4,105	3,395			
% female.....	36.7	23.7	26.5	50.0	32.2	27.1	55.0	56.1	41.9			
% veterans.....	10.8	14.3	15.9	15.7	10.0	26.3	18.0	18.3	31.5			
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	5.1	7.0	9.0	6.9	5.9	8.6	12.8	15.1	16.7			
Occupational distribution, females:												
% professional, clerical & sales.....	45.7	52.6	52.4	41.2	35.1	43.6	83.5	82.5	87.8			
% service & other.....	14.7	14.1	20.4	7.1	5.6	8.9	6.9	7.5	5.6			
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	7.7	5.1	2.9	7.4	20.6	5.5	5.7	5.5	2.2			
% unskilled.....	31.9	28.2	24.3	44.3	38.7	42.0	3.9	4.5	4.4			
2. Applicants registered during month.....	575	365	675	1,135	1,083	1,972	2,618	2,094	2,826			
3. Total workers available during month.....	891	694	1,064	2,516	3,533	5,698	6,161	6,199	6,221			
% referred.....	78.7	53.2	73.0	47.1	19.0	15.8	33.1	26.1	40.1			
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	247	316	242	1,241	1,381	3,122	3,237	3,543	3,196			
Employment:												
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	18,900	17,400	-	18,800	17,500	-	62,400	60,600			
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.42	28.84			

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Peterborough			St. Catharines			Sault Ste. Marie		
	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	16	13	21	22	22	38	14	17	110
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month....	293	241	408	672	522	1,594	1,152	1,201	816
2. Vacancies notified during month....	558	626	892	1,294	1,033	2,376	1,045	530	2,286
3. Total jobs available during month....	851	867	1,300	1,966	1,555	3,970	2,197	1,731	3,202
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	470	412	719	677	443	789	359	438	205
% casual placements.....	-	-	-	11.2	0.5	16.5	-	-	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	219	293	382	766	672	1,011	962	1,152	2,390
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month..	327	214	470	706	670	1,283	295	284	947
% female.....	11.9	9.8	8.9	38.8	40.0	50.9	85.4	83.5	32.8
% veterans.....	45.9	59.8	46.4	27.8	24.6	24.5	3.4	3.5	18.7
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.	24.5	26.6	27.2	11.6	14.2	15.0	2.0	2.1	9.0
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales....	41.0	66.7	54.7	44.9	41.0	23.7	71.4	72.6	64.3
% service & other.....	2.6	-	4.8	12.4	12.0	4.5	13.1	22.4	15.8
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	10.3	9.5	4.8	24.5	29.1	10.4	5.6	2.9	14.8
% unskilled.....	46.1	23.8	35.7	18.2	17.9	61.4	9.9	2.1	5.1
2. Applicants registered during month....	895	764	1,031	1,066	835	1,263	506	524	535
3. Total workers available during month..	1,222	978	1,501	1,772	1,505	2,546	801	808	1,482
% referred.....	76.8	85.1	79.7	63.7	47.8	47.8	57.7	49.5	17.8
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month....	396	327	484	702	706	1,108	251	295	1,012
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	24,700	23,500	-	31,600	29,000	-	17,400	9,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Sudbury			Toronto			Welland		
	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)....	18	16	38	13	12	26	37	26	102
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month....	2,347	1,414	3,088	20,121	14,781	16,893	478	380	312
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,517	1,992	2,450	20,825	22,422	23,436	526	630	817
3. Total jobs available during month.....	3,864	3,406	5,538	40,946	37,203	40,329	1,004	1,010	1,129
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	984	763	1,309	8,458	7,343	7,857	235	223	435
% casual placements.....	6.6	5.1	3.1	21.4	15.3	9.9	3.0	3.1	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	2,095	2,347	2,589	21,219	20,121	20,024	370	478	392
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month....	531	857	1,076	4,775	6,534	10,538	244	354	1,088
% female.....	34.3	46.7	37.5	14.9	20.4	9.4	62.3	61.6	60.5
% veterans.....	24.7	12.0	22.0	37.8	23.7	43.5	3.3	5.6	15.3
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	6.8	2.6	10.4	18.0	11.5	38.0	1.6	1.4	7.8
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales....	68.1	37.0	55.6	56.9	33.0	42.8	42.1	58.2	33.6
% service & other.....	23.1	22.2	16.6	17.1	9.8	13.8	15.8	10.6	13.0
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	6.6	3.3	11.4	11.1	10.9	18.7	15.1	10.6	36.2
% unskilled.....	2.2	37.5	16.4	14.9	46.3	24.7	27.0	20.6	17.2
2. Applicants registered during month....	1,042	892	1,542	13,211	10,777	13,811	538	406	743
3. Total workers available during month....	1,573	1,749	2,618	17,986	17,311	24,549	782	760	1,881
% referred.....	59.9	47.8	54.4	73.3	61.8	54.2	65.0	61.6	44.8
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	619	531	1,022	5,420	4,775	9,781	350	244	840
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	33,700	27,200	-	406,100	376,200	-	9,500	8,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	37.16	33.16	-	-	-

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept.(x) 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946
Ratio of unemployment end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	53	46	260	32	35	49	15	13	27
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled Vacancies, first of month....	529	286	258	4,330	3,250	4,830	715	722	1,138
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	2,017	1,843	1,415	7,169	7,772	8,294	1,363	1,903	1,958
3. Total jobs available during month.....	2,546	2,129	1,673	11,499	11,822	13,124	2,078	2,825	3,096
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	1,408	1,105	995	4,293	4,853	4,181	929	1,121	1,120
% casual placements.....	30.7	20.3	13.3	36.6	27.5	25.1	42.8	27.1	27.8
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	399	529	317	4,345	4,330	5,105	524	715	1,048
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month...	2,662	3,162	8,185	5,033	6,370	7,010	425	619	711
% Female.....	54.2	55.4	18.8	37.8	37.0	26.6	39.3	45.7	56.4
% Veterans.....	17.6	16.3	24.2	25.4	23.1	40.4	30.8	20.4	30.9
% Veterans unplaced 15 days or more. Occupational distribution, Females.	10.6	7.7	15.6	12.6	14.3	27.8	25.9	18.1	26.3
% professional, clerical & Sales....	52.9	50.5	39.0	62.3	62.0	66.3	54.5	65.4	64.9
% service & other.....	10.1	10.7	12.5	11.5	9.4	9.5	28.7	19.1	16.2
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	20.7	20.1	40.0	7.8	9.4	4.0	14.4	8.8	9.3
% unskilled.....	16.3	18.7	8.4	18.4	19.2	20.2	2.4	6.7	9.6
2. Applicants registered during month....	2,934	2,253	7,249	7,513	7,566	8,370	1,568	1,692	2,194
3. Total workers available during month...	5,596	5,415	15,434	12,546	13,936	15,380	1,993	2,311	2,905
% referred.....	46.8	37.7	9.9	53.4	50.1	47.3	83.3	79.7	69.7
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	3,024	2,662	12,585	4,531	5,033	6,836	492	425	828
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	57,500	48,400	-	142,000	128,600	-	32,900	31,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	43.50	37.33	-	33.26	30.63	-	32.35	29.76

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept. (x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed).....	24	25	21	34	27	50	22	21	31
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	628	599	899	1,188	975	1,224	1,449	1,270	2,174
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,177	1,180	1,248	3,099	3,034	4,044	3,438	3,052	4,479
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,805	1,779	2,147	4,287	4,009	5,268	4,887	4,322	6,653
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	570	637	555	2,225	1,984	2,459	2,382	1,994	2,840
% casual placements.....	28.9	15.4	22.9	17.4	17.7	12.1	21.8	17.7	15.8
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	665	628	737	987	1,188	1,236	1,335	1,449	2,096
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	1,149	1,189	1,078	1,428	1,720	2,519	1,604	1,824	2,143
% female.....	41.2	37.4	32.9	31.8	31.3	21.2	27.8	23.1	15.6
% veterans.....	23.8	26.5	40.4	41.3	30.4	45.3	27.7	26.2	42.7
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more..	13.1	16.5	25.0	24.2	19.1	31.1	12.5	11.5	21.7
Occupational distribution, females									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	57.7	58.0	56.3	69.0	66.2	64.0	64.0	62.1	56.8
% service & other.....	29.6	27.0	18.3	21.8	21.4	18.4	25.4	22.0	24.9
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	5.7	5.8	8.2	5.9	5.0	4.5	4.5	7.6	11.0
% unskilled.....	7.0	9.2	17.2	3.3	7.4	13.1	6.1	8.3	7.3
2. Applicants registered during month.....	1,434	1,378	1,484	3,438	2,706	3,758	4,049	3,426	5,123
3. Total workers available during month....	2,583	2,567	2,562	4,866	4,426	6,277	5,653	5,250	7,266
% referred.....	46.5	49.9	39.0	66.3	63.9	53.7	68.1	58.9	57.9
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	1,102	1,149	967	1,799	1,428	2,421	1,669	1,604	2,228
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	46,600	45,800	-	52,500	48,800	-	75,600	72,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	33.04	29.28	-	34.75	32.12	-	32.97	30.46

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Trail			Vancouver			Victoria		
	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946	Sept.(x) 1947	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1946
Ration of unemployment, end of month, no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	16	17	31	56	49	80	31	32	40
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	194	249	259	4,299	4,692	6,501	754	621	1,298
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	378	177	378	9,663	9,757	13,028	1,127	1,143	2,099
3. Total jobs available during month.....	572	426	637	13,962	14,449	19,529	1,881	1,764	3,397
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	229	212	229	5,591	4,964	5,439	713	565	1,100
% casual placements.....	0.4	2.4	-	18.7	14.8	17.6	20.1	15.0	5.6
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	314	194	294	3,200	4,299	6,072	555	754	1,338
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	167	178	267	10,487	10,576	16,439	1,560	1,725	1,975
% female.....	50.3	55.6	53.2	24.0	26.3	15.5	15.1	14.6	16.8
% veterans.....	29.9	24.2	16.1	37.3	32.4	38.4	33.5	27.8	38.9
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more..	2.4	11.2	11.6	24.9	22.4	27.4	23.0	18.1	25.0
Occupational distribution, females:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	82.1	80.8	62.7	56.7	52.9	45.1	59.3	60.5	67.2
% service & other.....	15.5	16.1	16.2	21.6	20.7	20.7	29.2	23.1	20.5
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	-	1.0	8.4	17.9	17.0	16.1	6.0	6.8	5.1
% unskilled.....	2.4	2.1	12.7	3.8	9.4	17.1	5.5	9.6	7.2
2. Applicants registered during month.....	288	281	308	13,835	11,898	13,185	1,420	1,154	1,860
3. Total workers available during month...	455	459	575	24,322	22,474	29,624	2,980	2,879	3,855
% referred.....	55.6	50.5	42.8	39.5	38.6	31.0	37.9	31.1	34.3
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	161	167	278	11,793	10,487	14,840	1,484	1,560	1,811
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	10,000	9,000	-	212,400	185,500	-	48,200	45,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	36.45	33.19	-	36.61	31.63

x Figures subject to revision.









A N A D I A N

# LABOUR MARKET

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR,  
RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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Volume 3

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# THE LABOUR MARKET IN BRIEF.....

Employment Outlook--Canadian businessmen are optimistic about the first quarter of 1948. No appreciable easing of the labour market is envisaged, although the upward cyclical trend of employment will likely begin to level off. This is to be expected, however, since manpower resources are already being almost completely utilized. Some minor dislocations of existing employment patterns may occur as a result of the Austerity program. These dislocations, along with shortages of plant capacity, material, and housing accommodation, may lead to the continuation of pockets of unemployment.

## Seasonal Variations of Employment in the Agricultural Implements

Industry--The pre-war seasonality of employment in this industry was largely due to the seasonal nature of the demand for farm implements. This demand is concentrated in the spring and summer of each year. Accordingly, employment in the farm implements industry reached a seasonal peak in the late winter of each year. The extent of seasonal variations is governed by general employment conditions. During depressions, seasonality is great; in prosperous times, such variations of employment are considerably reduced. It may be possible to maintain employment during the off-season by

diversifying the number of products manufactured by such companies, as well as by extending export markets.

Employment Trends in Major Canadian Industries--During November, the Canadian labour force declined moderately in size as expansion in the manufacturing, trading, and logging industries was more than offset by declines in agricultural and construction employment. The demand for wage increases was becoming more general in all industries as the cost of living index rose sharply.

Employment Service Activities--Increased stability is evident in the labour market. Rising living costs and uncertain economic conditions are doubtless making workers hesitant about leaving jobs. A gradual satiation of labour requirements for women is noted. The placement of ex-service personnel is dealt with in the rest of this article.

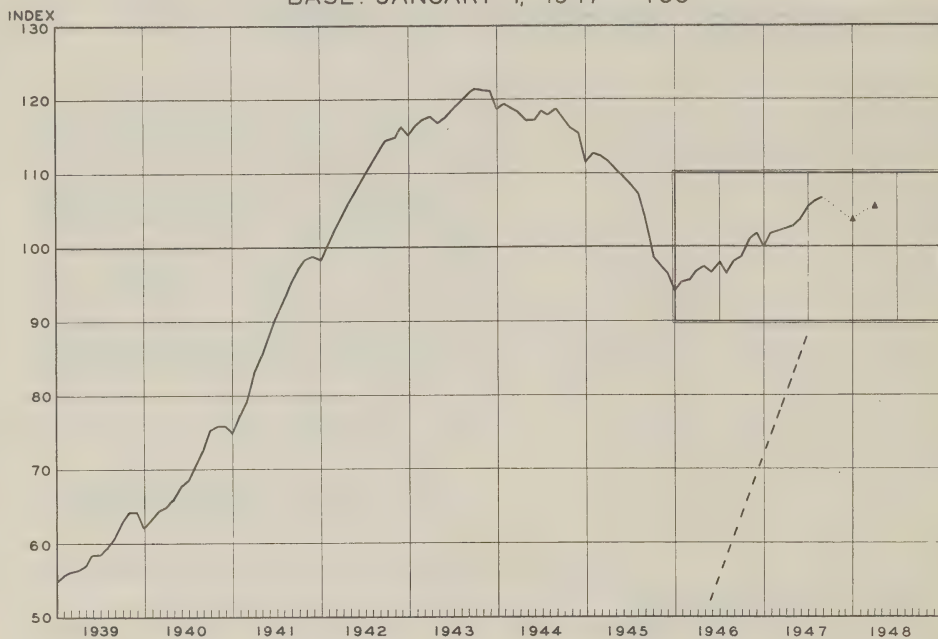
Economic Situation in Manufacturing Industries--Current conditions for various manufacturing industries are evaluated with respect to markets, plant facilities, labour supply, the supply of materials, and prices.

Labour Market Rating of Communities--Labour market conditions in 38 of the major labour market areas in Canada are assessed as Acute, Serious, Moderate, or Favourable. This assessment is accompanied by explanations of changes noted in several labour market ratings.

# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS OF MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES 1939 - 1948

## ACTUAL AND FORECASTED

BASE: JANUARY 1, 1947 = 100

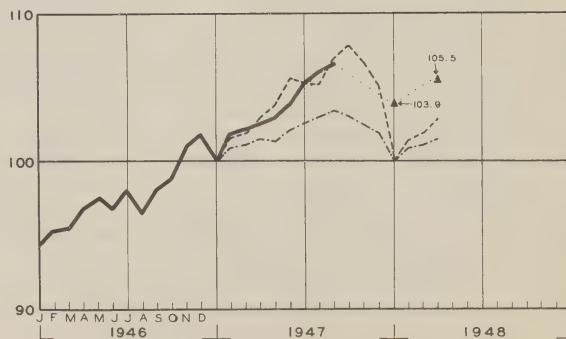


— D.B.S. INDICES  
FOR MANUFACTURING

- - - SEASONAL TREND  
1936 - 1941

..... SEASONAL TREND  
1940 - 1945

▲ FORECASTED  
EMPLOYMENT





## THE EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

During the past twelve months, there have been sharp increases in the number of workers employed in almost all Canadian industries. As a result, employment had surpassed the five million mark by the late summer for the first time in Canadian history, and unemployment was near its war-time low. In the past few weeks, the customary seasonal decline has commenced, but employment levels have remained substantially above those for comparable dates in 1946.

It is against this background that the forecasts of employment provided by the Employment Forecast Survey of this branch for January 1 and April 1, 1948 must be viewed. These forecasts show that the upward cyclical trend of employment is beginning to level off. This is to be expected, however, since manpower resources are already being almost completely utilized. In general, Canadian businessmen are optimistic about the first quarter of 1948. A similar optimism is apparent in recent United States forecasts of business conditions for next year.

It should be understood that these employment forecasts were made prior to the recently announced higher excise taxes and restrictions on imports from the United States. It is no easy matter to assess the effects of this so called Austerity Program on production and employment, since the program is interlinked with the recent tariff changes insofar as its effects on the Canadian economy are concerned.

In essence, the Austerity Program is an American dollar saving plan, designed to effect a better balance between essential United States imports and Canadian exports to the United States. From the point of view of their duration, the various phases of the program can be classified into two groups. The first group, composed of the short-term or stop-gap measures, includes such measures as the outright restriction of the importation of many non-essential items from the United States, quota restrictions on the importation of some fruits and vegetables, textiles, and capital goods from the United States, the imposition of a 25 per cent excise tax on a wide variety of durable consumer goods which contain a high percentage of parts from the United States, and travel restrictions for those going to United States dollar areas. The second group of measures are those whose effects will be relatively long-term or permanent. This phase of the program can be called an industrial integration plan. It will involve some control and direction of capital investment in Canada, an attempt to balance the dollar accounts of specific American branch plants located in Canada, and a subsidy of \$7 per ounce on all gold production above amounts produced in the year ended June 30, 1947.

As yet, however, it is not expected that this Austerity Program will have a very great effect on the pattern of employment in Canada, at least in the immediate future. The overall effect on manufacturing employment

in 1948 is not expected to be significant. Employment in most consumer non-durable industries may be expected to increase, with the exception of the clothing industry which may be affected by the quota on fabrics. In industries producing consumer durable goods, it may be expected that the Austerity Program will affect production schedules and hence employment in such key fields as the automobile and household appliance industries. In view of the demand, however, employment in the consumer durable industries may be expected to increase if entry is permitted of essential parts, and to decrease if the volume of imports of such parts is reduced below the requirements of 1947. Employment in the producer goods industry should increase, providing that a sufficient supply of steel is available. From a short-term viewpoint, therefore, it is not likely that there will be any serious displacements of workers in the manufacturing industries. From a long-term viewpoint, if Canadian plants are encouraged to produce parts in Canada using Canadian raw material, it may be expected that there will be a continued growth in manufacturing employment.

In trade, restrictions on the supply of goods available, as well as the excise taxes, may be expected to arrest the upward growth of employment. Distributors and importers will be definitely affected. There will likely be a decline of employment in these fields.

Construction employment will definitely be higher during 1948 in view of the heavy capital investment and residential construction programs.

Employment in base metal and gold mines will likely show substantial increases if labour is made available.

In general, the Austerity Program, as well as the recent tariff changes, may mean that for the first time in Canadian history a real opportunity exists for us to secure a permanent place in the rich United States market - not only in natural products but as well in many processed and manufacturing articles where the raw material is largely of Canadian origin. The program is an initial step towards the great economic integration of this country.

The outlook for 1948, however, presages certain dangers. Inflationary pressures will likely increase, especially if any large scale purchases of foodstuffs and basic materials are made in Canada under the European Recovery Program. The sections of the economy in which supplies have been restricted by recent import regulations will be especially vulnerable to inflationary trends. Moreover, higher prices may result in a certain amount of industrial unrest which would lead to greater shortages and add to the inflationary tendencies.

The remainder of this section will discuss briefly the employment prospect in various industries, on the basis of the recent results of the Employment Forecast Survey which provided estimates of probable employment for January 1 and April 1, 1948.

#### Manufacturing Industries

The January 1 and April 1, 1948, employment forecasts, although slightly below the September level because of a small seasonal decline, indicate that employment will be higher than for the same dates in 1947.

The predicted figure for April 1 is 2.9 per cent above that for the same date last year. The following table summarizes the picture in manufacturing.

Table I--Employment Forecasts in Major Manufacturing Industries

Industry Group	Actual Employment (1)		Forecasted April 1, 1948	Percentage Change	
	April 1, 1946	April 1, 1947		Apr.1/46 to Apr.1/47	Apr.1/47 Apr.1/48
Consumer Non-Durables..	297,800	313,300	319,200	+ 5.2	+ 1.9
Ancillary to Consumer..					
Non-Durables.....	136,200	145,500	150,100	+ 6.8	+ 3.2
Consumer Durables.....	131,400	150,600	156,600	+14.7	+ 4.0
Producer Goods.....	381,800	393,200	403,800	+ 3.0	+ 2.7
Electric Power.....	21,100	23,700	26,600	+12.4	+12.2
Manufacturing (2).....	969,800	1,026,900	1,057,000	+ 5.9	+ 2.9

(1) Source: D.B.S. Employment and Payroll Statistics of firms employing 15 persons or more.

(2) Manufacturing figure is not the total of sub-groups as there are certain minor omissions from sub-groups.

#### Consumer Non-Durables --

The current forecast indicates that employment for this group as at April 1, 1948 will be 319,200, 1.9 per cent above that for the same date in 1947. Employment expansion in the Food and Beverage industries is expected to continue according to its current trend, while declining rates of increase are anticipated for Clothing, Printing, and Tobacco, and an absolute decrease of 5.1 per cent is indicated for the Drug manufacturing group. A slight seasonal decline will be in evidence until January 1, following which a gradual seasonal recovery will be achieved by April 1, 1948.

The Food Industry -- The current seasonal decline will extend until April 1; the forecast figure of 94,900 for that date, however, is 2.8 per cent above the April, 1947, level. In the edible animal products group, meat packing employment will show a slight increase during the



forecast period, fish packing a moderate decline, while dairy products employment will remain stable. The fall seasonal increase of employment in fruit and vegetable plants was substantially below that for 1946 due to low crop yields this year. Confectionery production has been hampered by shortages of both labour and materials, but attempts to expand the labour force will be made as the raw material supply situation becomes easier.

The Clothing Industry is expected to parallel the employment levels reached last year. The April 1, 1948, forecast of 132,800 represents an increase of 7,000 over January 1, 1948, but this is mainly seasonal in nature.

Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding employment is expected by April 1 to increase to 49,000, 3.8 per cent over April 1, 1947.

Beverage Industry employment of 18,760 at September 1, 1947, is expected to decline to 17,900 and 17,800 at January 1 and April 1, 1948, respectively. The April 1 figure, however, is 7.1 per cent above the same date for 1947, indicating the earlier decline is principally seasonal in nature. Labour supply has been adequate in this group.

Tobacco Industry employment at April 1 is expected to be 11,900, only 0.9 per cent above that for April 1, 1947. A relatively stable level, therefore, has been reached. A moderate seasonal increase will be in progress until April 1, next.

#### Industries Ancillary to Consumer Non-Durables --

The April 1, 1948, forecast of employment indicates an increase of 3.2 per cent over the same date for 1947. This means that employment will be up approximately 14,000, thus totalling 150,100. Industries Primary to Food are expected to maintain their present rate of employment growth, while the rates of increase in the Containers, Primary to Clothing, and Primary to Printing groups show distinct tendencies toward levelling off. Very little seasonal downswing from September 1 is anticipated by January 1 and any ground lost will be recovered by April 1. This group as a whole is expected to remain relatively stable throughout the forecast period.

Primary to Food -- Employment in the flour milling industry is expected to remain stable through the first quarter of 1948. Labour relations are satisfactory and the supply of workers has been adequate.

Primary to Clothing -- Employment of 61,540 at September 1 is expected to attain a level of 64,800 by April 1, 1948. The increase for the year ending April 1, 1948, is 2.0 per cent. A wide-spread shortage of labour has restricted further expansion of production in the textile industry. Demand remains strong and on the basis of present orders this industry could utilize several thousand more workers. Because of the generally "tight" labour market, however, no rapid expansion of employment in this industry can be anticipated. Executives of leading firms feel that a price increase will be necessary in the near future in order to offset rising production costs.

Primary to Printing -- The April 1, 1948, employment forecast for the Pulp and Paper industry of 48,600 represents an increase of 3,000 (6.7 per cent) over the April, 1947 level. Newsprint mills continue to operate at capacity and a spirit of optimism is prevalent among executives.

Employment figures are high in this industry because of a substantial program for renovation and improvement of existing equipment which creates work for many men in the maintenance and servicing divisions. Some permanent increase has resulted from the opening of new mills engaged in the manufacture of pulp for export to the United States; further increases will occur as mills now under construction are made ready for operation.

Woods operations are covered under Logging.

#### Consumer Durable Goods Industries --

The April 1, 1948, employment forecast is 156,600. Although this is 6,000, or 4.0 per cent, above the figure for April 1, 1947, the rate of employment growth in this group of industries is declining. Demand for electrical goods and automobiles is still very strong, while there has been some reduction of backlogs in household furniture. Material supplies have presented the greatest difficulties with which these industries have had to contend, although in some instances labour shortages have been in evidence.

Household Furniture and Electrical Goods -- The employment forecast for April 1, 1948, of 87,800 shows an increase of 3.1 per cent over the same date for 1947. The market remains generally firm, although backlogs in demand are diminishing in some instances. Labour has been in short supply, especially in central Ontario. Producers dependent on steel imports from the United States have been unable to maintain full production due to shortages of this raw material. New productive facilities for the electrical group are nearing completion so that demand for labour should remain at a high level.

Vehicles (including 50% Rubber Industry) -- The forecast figure of 60,000 for April 1, 1948, represents an increase of 6.3 per cent over the same date a year previous. Raw materials have been in short supply but this situation has continued to improve. Labour has been adequate. While an almost insatiable demand for cars has been in evidence, the recently announced price increases because of federal taxes may be expected to reduce the number of customer orders. The ban on importation of American goods may also have a noticeable effect on this industry which has depended largely on the U.S. to keep its production lines operating. In the tire manufacturing group, supply has surpassed demand. The labour force has ceased to expand and is expected to remain stable throughout the forecast period.

#### Producer Goods Industries --

The cyclical trend of employment for the Producer Goods Industries group continues upward. The September 1, 1947, employment level of 409,300 is expected to decline seasonally to 397,900 by January 1, 1948, and to recover to 403,800 by April 1, 1948. The latter figure is 2.7 per cent above the employment figure for April 1, 1947. The trend in nearly all groups is upward with two exceptions: the Aircraft industry is passing through a period of contraction and will employ approximately 3,000 fewer workers by next April; the outlook to April 1 for the Shipbuilding and Construction Materials groups indicates general stability.



Machinery Building -- Employment during the first quarter of 1948 will run about 2.0 per cent above that for the same period a year previous. Markets, both domestic and foreign, remain firm. Shortage of labour, especially skilled workers, has been one of the major production problems.

Integrated Steel -- Demand far exceeds the present productive capacity which is restricted to some extent by labour shortages. The matter of further increasing production facilities is being approached very cautiously by management in view of the heavy expansion which took place during the war years. Employment will be fairly stable during the forecast period at a level 3.0 per cent above the first quarter of 1947.

Agricultural Producer Goods -- The forecast for this group indicates employment at April 1 will be 21,800 (6.1 per cent above April 1, 1947). Approximately one-half of the production of this group is for export and a high level of activity can be expected to continue for some time if foreign exchange difficulties are solved satisfactorily. In addition, the domestic market remains strong because of high farm income.

Chemicals -- Employment is expected to reach 19,900 by April 1, 1948, (4.7 per cent over April 1, 1947). Materials and labour are in adequate supply and production is restricted only by plant capacity.

Non-Ferrous Metals -- Continuation of a strong market for products of non-ferrous metal refineries depends largely on the United States which now purchases approximately 50 per cent of the total exports; however, indications are that U.S. demand will extend well into 1948. On the basis of a high level of activity in construction and durable goods manufacturing, both domestic and export markets are expected to be sustained for some time. High labour turnover coupled with a labour shortage has been the principal difficulty for this manufacturing group. The employment forecast figure of 48,000 for April 1, 1948, represents an increase of 2.9 per cent over April 1, 1947.

Construction Materials -- Employment has been following an upward trend since January, 1946. The forecast figure of 60,400 for April 1, 1948, represents an increase of 4.0 per cent over April, 1947. While residential and industrial contracts declined during 1947, the increase in business and engineering contracts was sufficient to raise the overall total by 8.5 per cent. This industry is expected to continue at capacity operation throughout the forecast period.

Petroleum -- Employment is expected to attain a level of 9,500 by April 1, 1948. This represents an increase of 5.2 per cent over April, 1947. Some expansion of production facilities is in progress.

Sawmills -- The September 1, 1947, employment figure of 52,100 will decline seasonally to 44,800 by January 1, 1948, and recover to 46,400 by April 1. This latter figure is 10.7 per cent above that for April, 1947. A high level of activity is expected to continue well into 1948 because of a strong domestic market.

Aircraft -- Employment is declining because of diminishing markets. The April 1 forecast of 8,300 represents a decrease of 28.1 per cent from April 1, 1947.

Shipbuilding -- Employment is expected to remain relatively stable during the forecast period, apart from a slight seasonal decline.



## Electric Power

The employment forecasts for January 1 and April 1 of 1948 indicate increases of 8.4 per cent and 12.2 per cent over similar figures for 1947. This will place employment at 25,800 and 26,600 on the respective forecast dates. Further increases may be looked for in the future as new power developments come into operation.

## Primary Industries

### Logging --

Pulpwood Logging: Manitoba and East -- The almost unlimited demand for pulp and paper will require an abnormally large cut of pulp wood this season. The employment trend is currently running 16 per cent above the same period of 1946. The forecast figures of 60,900 and 33,600 at January 1 and April 1 of 1948 are similarly 16 per cent above the corresponding dates for 1947. Labour shortages in this industry are being eased considerably through employment of immigrant displaced persons from Europe.

B.C. Logging -- Employment is expected to be 14,200 at January 1, 1948, and 17,000 at April 1, 1948. These figures are 18.3 and 10.8 per cent above the comparable dates for 1947. Skilled labour is still in short supply. The labour force is displaying greater stability since the signing of collective labour agreements throughout this industry.

### Mining --

Metal Mining -- Employment continues moderately upward with forecast figures for the industry of 40,000 and 40,600 at January 1 and April 1, 1948, compared to 38,900 at September 1 and 38,500 at April 1, 1947. Some increase in employment is expected in the gold mining group since the recently announced increase in gold prices will encourage the opening of new mines. Labour shortage is the chief deterrent to increased production at present and some work stoppages loom as a possibility next year; most employers are expected to offer considerable resistance to the prevalent demand for increased wages. Market prospects for base metals indicate a strong demand for the first half of 1948.

Non-Metallic Mining -- The employment forecast of 14,500 for April 1, 1948, is 12.5 per cent above the same date for 1947. When compared with the increase of 19.0 per cent which took place between April, 1946, and April, 1947, this would indicate a decelerating rate of growth in employment. Demand continues strong and high-level production is expected to continue well into 1948.

Coal Mining -- The employment forecast of 25,000 for January 1 indicates an increase of 1.8 per cent over January 1, 1947; because of coal strikes during 1947, the year to year comparison for April 1 is invalidated. A sharp seasonal upswing is forecast in the B.C. and Alberta mines where the August 1, 1947, figure of 9,900 is expected to reach 11,200 and 10,900 at January 1 and April 1, 1948, respectively.

Communications

The employment forecasts for January 1 and April 1, 1948, indicate increases of 9.4 and 7.4 per cent, respectively, over similar figures for 1947 to 36,700 and 37,300. The new Austerity Program is not expected to have any effect on the expansion now under way in the communications industry. Indications are that employment will continue at a high level for some time.

Department Stores and Mail Order Houses

No increase in employment is shown in the April 1, 1948, forecast; the figure of 53,500 is identical with that for April, 1947. This forecast is substantiated by a levelling off of physical volume of department store sales. The merchandise supply situation continues to improve although in many cases delivery dates are uncertain.

TABLE II--EMPLOYMENT FORECASTS

January 1, 1947-100

(Source: Employment Forecast Survey, Fourth Report, 1947)

Selected Industries	Recorded Employment		Forecasts	
	Jan. 1, 1947 (Actual)	April 1, 1947 (Index)	Jan. 1, 1948 (Index)	April 1, 1948 (Index)
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	1,002,340	102.5	103.9	105.5
Food (Other than flour and grist mills).....	100,007	92.2	100.6	94.9
Beverages.....	16,980	97.9	105.4	104.8
Flour and feed milling.....	6,547	98.9	105.0	106.9
Primary textiles.....	60,399	105.2	104.5	107.3
Pulp and paper.....	44,901	103.0	106.7	108.2
Containers.....	28,619	102.2	102.7	103.8
Furniture and electrical goods.....	80,946	105.4	105.4	108.5
Vehicles (automobiles and parts other than rubber).....	40,189	109.4	115.3	117.9
Rubber.....	23,951	104.4	101.9	105.3
Machinery building.....	90,550	100.6	102.2	102.5
Integrated steel.....	55,606	100.9	103.1	103.6
Agricultural machinery.....	18,544	110.8	115.4	117.6
Chemicals.....	18,998	100.0	103.7	104.7
Non-ferrous metal products.....	44,707	104.5	107.6	107.4
Construction materials.....	55,530	104.6	106.2	108.8
Petroleum products.....	9,103	99.2	103.4	104.5
Sawmills.....	40,026	104.8	111.9	115.9
Aircraft.....	12,631	91.3	64.9	65.7
Shipbuilding.....	22,693	109.9	103.1	109.3
Electric power.....	23,792	99.7	103.4	111.8
<b>PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>				
<u>Logging</u>				
Manitoba and East (Pulpwood logging only).....	52,464	56.1	116.1	64.0
British Columbia.....	11,979	127.7	118.5	141.9
<u>Coal Mining</u> .....	24,554	56.0	101.8	104.3
Nova Scotia.....	12,280	19.5(1)	103.4	109.9
Alberta and British Columbia.....	11,114	97.3	100.8	98.1



TABLE II--EMPLOYMENT FORECASTS (Cont'd)  
January 1, 1947=100

(Source: Employment Forecast Survey, Fourth Report, 1947)

Selected Industries	Recorded Employment		Forecasts	
	Jan. 1, 1947 (Actual)	April 1, 1947 (Index)	Jan. 1, 1948 (Index)	April 1, 1948 (Index)
<u>PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</u> (Cont'd)				
<u>Metal Mining</u> .....	35,162	109.5	113.8	115.5
<u>Non-Metallic Mining</u> .....	12,712	101.4	111.7	112.5
<u>Communications</u>				
Telephones.....	33,557	103.5	109.4	111.2
<u>Retail Trade</u>				
Department stores and mail order houses.....	60,370	88.5	98.6	88.6

(1) Coal strike in effect.

## SEASONAL VARIATIONS OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS INDUSTRY

The agricultural implements industry is one of the oldest manufacturing industries in Canada. It dates back to the middle of the nineteenth century when Canada followed the trend of farm mechanization already begun in the northern parts of United States during the American Civil War. A similar combination of circumstances, namely, the high price of wheat, scarcity of farm labour, and the availability of large tracts of cleared land, stimulated the need for labour-saving farm machinery in both countries and prepared a ready market for the agricultural implements industry in its early stages.

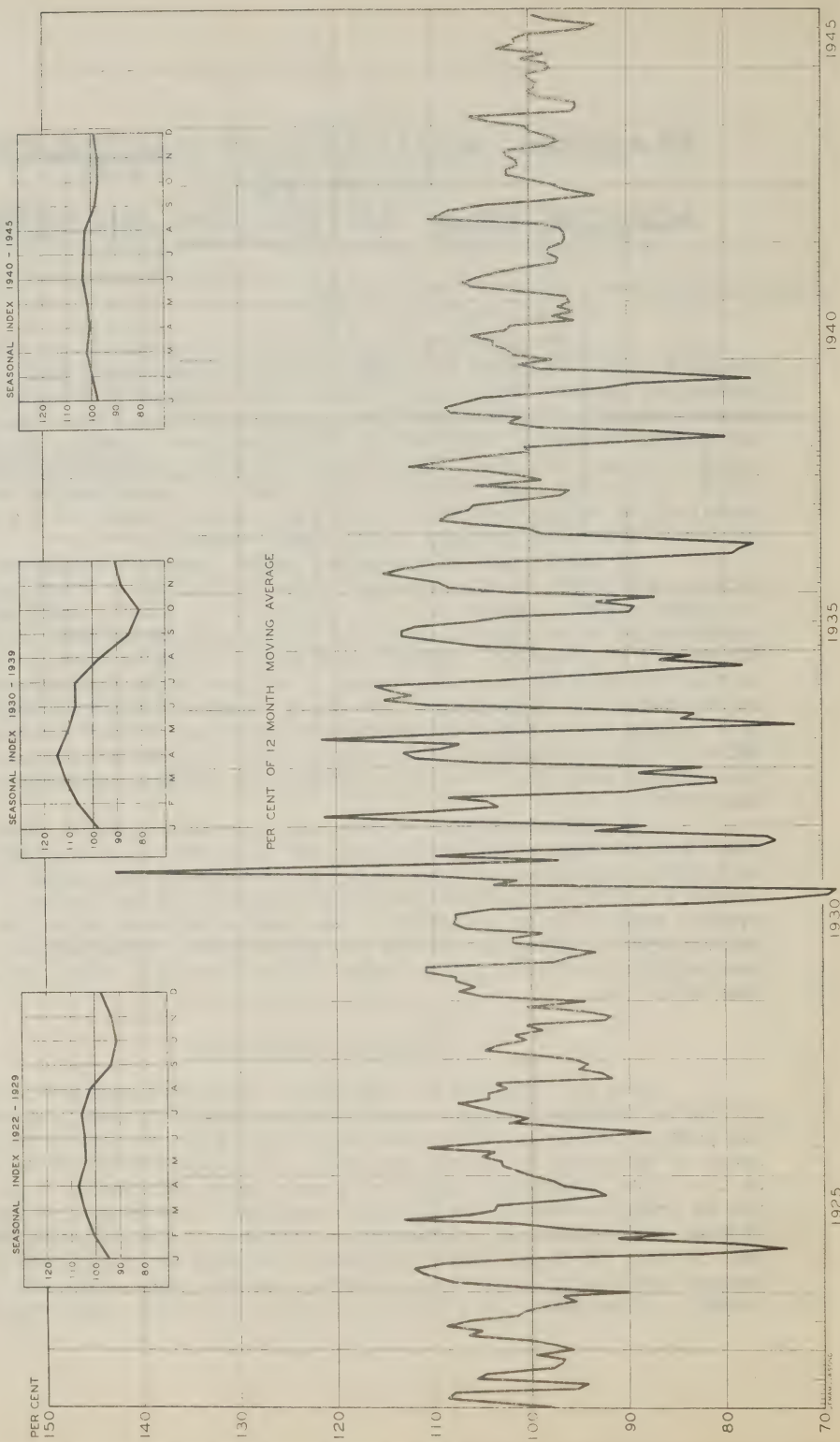
At first, most of the agricultural implement companies in Canada were "short or limited-line" firms producing for short seasons followed by short seasons of sale. These "short line" companies concentrated on a limited range of products such as ploughs, or harvesting machinery, or tractors. As the installation of labour-saving machinery in the factories became more elaborate and more expensive, however, it was necessary to keep them more fully employed to spread overhead cost. This led to the development of "long or full-line" companies which produce a relatively full complement of implements and machines. This production policy has been conducive to steadier employment for the workers.

In comparison with an industry such as automobile manufacturing, where the average worker is employed for only six to seven months of each year, the effect of seasonality on production, employment and earnings in the agricultural implements industry is not serious. The average worker in the agricultural implements industry before the war was employed at least ten months out of the year. Nevertheless, the seasonal fluctuations in the industry are substantial enough to merit some attention.

### Degree of Seasonality

For the purposes of this study, seasonal indices were computed for three different periods--the 'Twenties, the 'Thirties, and the war years. During the first period, 1922 to 1929, we find a total range of variation of 16 per cent about the average level of employment. At that time, employment showed an average seasonal rise of 7 per cent and an average seasonal decline of 9 per cent. The second period, 1930 to 1939, witnessed a substantial increase in the range of variation when it rose to 32 per cent--an average increase of 15 per cent and an average decline of 17 per cent. During the war years, seasonality tended to disappear. At this time, 1940 to 1945, the range was only

# SEASONAL VARIATIONS IN EMPLOYMENT AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS INDUSTRY





6 per cent—an average increase of 3 per cent and an average decrease of 3 per cent.

A matter of interest in any seasonal study is the volume of seasonal unemployment in the industry. Seasonal unemployment in any month is measured by the difference between employment in the particular month and at the seasonal peak.

During the years 1922 to 1929, the lowest level of employment on the average was 15 per cent (1) below that at the peak. This meant that approximately 1,400 workers were seasonally unemployed in the slackest period. From 1930 to 1939, the lowest level of employment on the average was 28 per cent below that at the peak. In other words, about 1,600 workers were unemployed for varying intervals in the agricultural implements industry. The full effect of unemployment is not brought out, however, since the percentage is applied to a lower level of employment in the second period. From 1940 to 1945, the lowest level of employment on the average was 6 per cent below the peak. This meant that only 700 workers were unemployed in the slackest time.

Average seasonal indices of employment in this industry are presented in Table I. In studying seasonal fluctuations of employment in any industry, the first step must be to calculate seasonal indices by some method. In Table I, "normal" seasonal indices have been calculated from the employment data of the Employment and Payrolls Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The method has been to compute a centered 12-month moving average and then to express the original data as a percentage of the appropriate centered moving average figure. These percentage deviations were then arrayed by months. Three different periods, within each of which the seasonal pattern was fairly consistent, were observed. For each of these periods, a modified mean of the percentage deviations was calculated and this mean was multiplied by a correction factor in order to arrive at a final "normal" or average seasonal index for the period.

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(1) This percentage differs from that of the range of variation since the bases of comparison are different. The range of variation is measured about the average level of employment whereas the volume of seasonal unemployment is measured from the highest level of employment.

Table I—Average Seasonal Indices of Employment  
in the Agricultural Implements Industry

(Source of Original Data: Employment and Payrolls Branch, Dominion  
Bureau of Statistics)

Month	1922-1929	1930-1939	1940-1945
Jan. 1.....	94.5	98.0	97.6
Feb. 1.....	100.9	106.6	99.4
Mar. 1.....	104.7	111.6	101.6
Apr. 1.....	107.2	114.7	100.5
May 1.....	104.4	110.3	101.5
June 1.....	104.5	107.3	103.3
July 1.....	105.9	107.6	103.0
Aug. 1.....	102.6	97.6	102.3
Sept. 1.....	93.7	85.0	98.2
Oct. 1.....	91.3	82.7	97.1
Nov. 1.....	93.4	88.2	97.2
Dec. 1.....	97.3	90.4	98.6

#### Pattern of Seasonality

In the first period, 1922 to 1929, employment commenced its seasonal upswing during October and continued to rise until a peak was reached in March. Employment then fell slightly until early July after which it dropped steadily downward to a seasonal low in October.

During the second period, 1930 to 1939, the seasonal pattern remained relatively the same with a peak in early March and a trough in early October but there was a marked increase in the amplitude of variation from peak to trough. This is in contrast to the pattern in the automobile and parts industry. In this industry, the pattern with a single peak and single trough was replaced by one with two peaks divided by a trough.

In the last period, 1940 to 1945, the situation was entirely different. Although there is little evidence of seasonality, a careful examination of the seasonal pattern reveals a slight peak at the beginning of June and a low in early October.

#### Causes of Seasonality

What are the causes of these seasonal fluctuations in employment in the agricultural implements industry? Employment in this industry, like that in the automobile and parts industry, is subjected to moderate seasonal variations because of fluctuating consumer demand. The pattern of demand in the automobile and parts industry has been established through the holding of annual automobile shows. We shall discover that the pattern of demand in the agricultural implements industry has resulted from fluctuations in farm income.

For the most part, fluctuations in demand for all types of agricultural implements are telescoped into the spring and early summer. In the spring, farmers purchase their planting equipment and in the early summer they buy harvesting machinery.

The nature of this demand with its peak centering in spring and early summer has not been established through custom or habit but has resulted from seasonal fluctuations in farm income. Demand is dependent on farm income, the greater part of which the farmer receives in the late summer and early fall of each year. Farmers, through necessity, therefore, wait until after income is forthcoming from the fall harvest before they consider purchasing new machinery. These purchases take place in the following spring.

We might be led to believe that fluctuations in farm income would encourage "hand-to-mouth" production. Since agricultural implements require a long time to produce, however, production has to begin in the fall in order to meet the active demand of the spring. This accounts for the fact that employment commences on a seasonal upswing in the fall.

The late summer and early fall is a period of seasonal decline since buying for spring and fall needs has ceased. At this time production is curtailed since any new production would not reach the farmer in time for that season's crop. Employment, consequently, falls off. Production schedules based on forecasted crop reports are then drawn up for the next spring and summer buying season.

It appears that the cyclical trend of employment exerted an important influence on the amplitude of seasonal fluctuations during the second period, 1930 to 1939. Production in advance was limited since drought and low prices for farm products during the 'Thirties kept demand at a low ebb. Thus, increased seasonal fluctuations were superimposed on a basically declining volume of employment and, as a result, the relative magnitudes of the seasonal fluctuations were increased.

During the war years high prices for farm products, good crops and a short supply of farm labour prevailed. These were all factors which increased and levelled out the demand for agricultural implements. In addition, this industry produced much war equipment (40% to 50% of production from 1942 to 1944). Even yet the demand is much larger than the industry could supply. Consequently, production and employment have been maintained at capacity levels throughout recent years.

#### Attempts to Smooth Out Seasonal Fluctuations

Since this industry is of relatively minor importance as a source of employment (average employment in 1938 represented only 5 per cent of that in the iron and steel group and 1 per cent of that in all manufacturing industries) the problem of seasonality is not serious for the economy. Nevertheless, any methods that might be adopted to reduce seasonal variations would be beneficial to those workers employed in the industry.



A few practices conducive to steadier employment have already been adopted by the industry. First, the development of full or long-line companies has been a stabilizing influence. Plant facilities are devoted to the manufacture of particular implements for only short periods of time; they are then utilized, again for short periods, for other implements, and so on throughout the year. Thus, by increasing the number of products and lines handled it has been possible to lengthen the selling season and keep employees more fully occupied. Short-line companies have a tendency to display more seasonality.

Second, it is the general practice of agricultural implement manufacturers to maintain facilities for supplying demands for replacement or repair parts on any implement the factory ever produced. Unlike the automobile industry, a large percentage of component parts are not purchased from other manufacturing industries.(3) Since inventories of parts for both new and older implements have to be kept in stock, their manufacture helps employment in the off-season.

In the third place, attempts to expand markets in times of seasonal slackness have led many manufacturers to favour expansion of their export markets. Exports to the southern hemisphere are generally most useful for offsetting seasonal slumps in domestic demand because of the opposed seasons of the two hemispheres. With regard to the agricultural implements industry, exports to the southern hemisphere do not appear to have eliminated seasonality to any great extent. Reference to Table II reveals that the seasonal gap in the export trade coincides with the seasonal trough in employment. Exports of agricultural implements reach a peak some four months after the peak in employment. Exports, therefore, do tend to extend the season of peak employment but they do nothing to alleviate unemployment in the off-season.

Table II--Average Seasonal Indices of Exports of  
Agricultural Implements from Canada

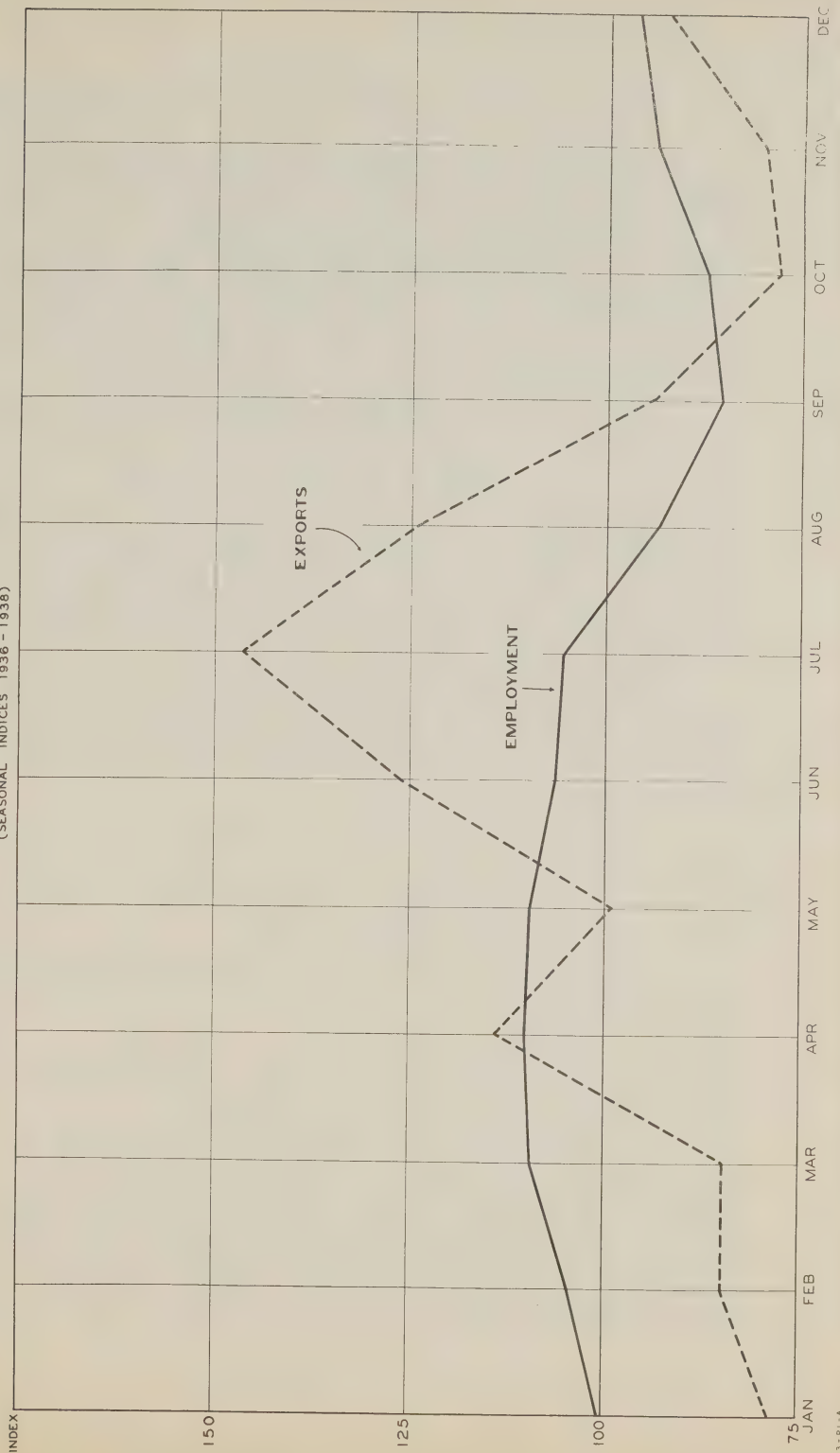
(Source: International Trade Statistics, D.B.S.)

Month	1936-1938
Jan. 1.....	78.4
Feb. 1.....	84.8
Mar. 1.....	84.8
Apr. 1.....	113.9
May 1.....	98.9
June 1.....	126.1
July 1.....	146.4
Aug. 1.....	124.0
Sept. 1.....	93.8
Oct. 1.....	77.9
Nov. 1.....	78.9
Dec. 1.....	92.5

(3) In recent years as agricultural implements have become more complex, greater precision has been required in their manufacture. In these circumstances the industry has been purchasing large quantities of parts from other supplies and its dependence upon them is increasing.

# SEASONAL TRENDS IN EMPLOYMENT AND EXPORTS AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS INDUSTRY

(SEASONAL INDICES 1936 - 1938)



### Proposals for Further Elimination of Seasonal Fluctuations

Production for storage is one way by which manufacturers might attempt to iron out seasonal fluctuations in employment. Such a program would entail a year-round production policy, with production and employment spread out evenly over the months.

The disadvantages of producing for storage would appear to outweigh the advantages. The industry may not be as susceptible to changing designs as the automobile industry but storage difficulties are similar, due to the bulk of the product and high insurance charges entailed. Then, too, there is always the danger of overproduction in case of a crop failure.

It is possible that diversification of production might lead to a further reduction of seasonal unemployment. There is no indication that the industry has attempted to branch out into other lines of production in any serious way except during the war years. During the war years, the industry converted as much as 50 per cent of its capacity to the production of war materials. At this time demand was enormous and cost of production was a secondary consideration. Under these circumstances, this conversion was warranted. But when these conditions no longer apply, it is doubtful if the industry could divert its production from agricultural implements to other lines and still compete successfully on a price and quality basis with manufacturers already established in these other lines.

An analysis of the problem of demand for agricultural implements follows naturally on the preceding discussion of the problems of supply. The demand for agricultural implements is so closely related to the level of farm income that the most logical way to reduce fluctuations in demand and hence, seasonal unemployment, would be to attempt to stabilize farm income.

The trend in agriculture, especially in western Canada, from wheat to mixed farming has helped provide a steadier income for the farmer, insofar as he no longer relies completely on a single cash crop. The danger of unfavourable weather conditions which are such an unstable element in farm income is thereby reduced.

With diversified farming, the farmer requires a bigger investment in farm machinery. Since different crops are harvested at different times, the demand for agricultural implements will be spread over a longer period of time.

Another stabilizing influence on farm income is the development of improved varieties of cereal crops. As new strains are developed, the variations in yield caused by climatic conditions will tend to be reduced and farmers' income should be steadier.

Advertising does not appear to play an important part in the sale of agricultural implements. As mentioned previously, since style is a relatively unimportant factor in the agricultural implements industry, sales promotion similar to that used in the automobile industry would have little practical effect. It is possible that advertising could be used to encourage the farmer to buy better machinery which would tend to promote greater efficiency in farm operations. This could offset the weather hazard to some extent and farm income might possibly



become more stable. Fluctuations in employment might, therefore, be reduced.

The government has adopted a policy of guaranteed prices for agricultural products. We might mention here the United Kingdom—Canada wheat agreement under which the Canadian government has guaranteed farmers a minimum price for wheat regardless of the world price. This would mean that there should be less variation in agricultural income in the future than in the past.

To the extent that fluctuations in farm income can be reduced to a minimum, demand for agricultural implements also will fluctuate less widely. Seasonal fluctuations in employment in the industry, consequently, should be levelled out considerably.

#### Future Prospects for the Industry

Three favourable factors for the industry in future are: a greatly improved financial position of farmers, not only in Canada but throughout the world, the accelerated trend towards farm mechanization stimulated by the shortage and higher cost of farm labour, and the expansion of agriculture in Canada, the United States and many foreign countries, resulting in an ever-increasing demand for modern farm machinery. In view of the heavy backlog of demand and higher prices for farm products, the industry expects to operate at capacity production for another two years. Under these circumstances seasonal unemployment should remain at a minimum.

Table I--Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note:--All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Indicators	Sept. 1939	Sept. 1941	Sept. 1942	Sept. 1943	Sept. 1944	Sept. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1947	Sept. 1947
Employment (a)--									
Index (Av. 1926=100).....	119.3	160.7	176.6	183.2	182.6	170.8	174.2	190.7	191.2
(June 1, 1941=100)....	-	106.3	116.8	121.2	121.0	113.2	115.4	126.4	126.7
Number (thousands).....	1,284	1,725	1,896	1,967	1,960	1,834	1,870	2,065	2,072
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	431	448	452
Unplaced Applicants (b)--									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	66	59	96	144	99	86
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	31	31	71	113	69	60
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	35	28	25	31	30	26
Live Claims--									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	5	29	62	42	37
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	4	18	44	27	24
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	1	11	18	15	13
Earnings (a)--									
Aggregate payrolls									
(June 1, 1941 = 100)..	-	-	134.2	147.3	148.5	140.6	145.9	178.3	179.7
Per capita weekly earnings..	-	-	29.31	31.30	31.72	32.11	32.81	36.57	36.76
Cost of Living (c)--									
(Av. 1935-39 = 100).....	-	114.7	117.4	119.4	118.8	119.9	125.5	136.6	139.4
Man-hours and hourly									
earnings (a)--									
Average hours per week.....	-	-	-	-	-	44.1	42.7	42.5	42.3
Average hourly earnings.....	-	-	-	-	-	69.2	70.6	81.3	82.2
Strikes and lockouts (b)--									
Number.....	17	29	43	38	9	17	37	36	41
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	8	11	13	10	1	20	33	7	20
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	18	82	38	38	8	184	658	52	277
Industrial Production (d)--									
(Av. 1935-39 = 100).....	111.8	163.8	186.5	197.6	195.4	161.0	152.1	168.1	175.1

(a) Source: Employment and Payroll Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only.)

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

## EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITIES

### Seasonal downtrends not greatly in evidence by mid-November--

The balance between jobs available and unplaced applicants was maintained throughout October, but by mid-November jobless workers had advanced to 27,000 beyond the reported demand for labour. For this time of year, however, the labour market was satisfactory, with seasonal downtrends not yet greatly in evidence. The prospects for winter employment appeared good, although uncertainty was arising because of growing labour unrest.

At November 13, the number of unplaced applicants totalled 106,000 while unfilled vacancies stood at 78,000.

Employment levels sustained during October as usual employment shifts take place--A slower rate of lay-offs, due to exceptionally fine weather, enabled hiring rates to keep pace with the influx of applicants during most of October. The majority of persons released were from agriculture and they, as usual, turned in large numbers to logging employment. There was also a general inclination on the part of released workers to accept jobs in transportation, heavy manufacturing, and mining; in the tight labour market of the summer months, many jobs in these industries went unsatisfied. Within the construction industry, scattered lay-offs occurred but those released were usually able to find work on other building projects without difficulty.

Settlement of the strike in meat packing plants brought heavy demands for labour, both to replace the former staff who did not return and also to relieve the pressure of the heavy stock runs when business re-opened.

An average of 32,000 persons registered for work each week in October. From these the weekly placement rate totalled 16,000.

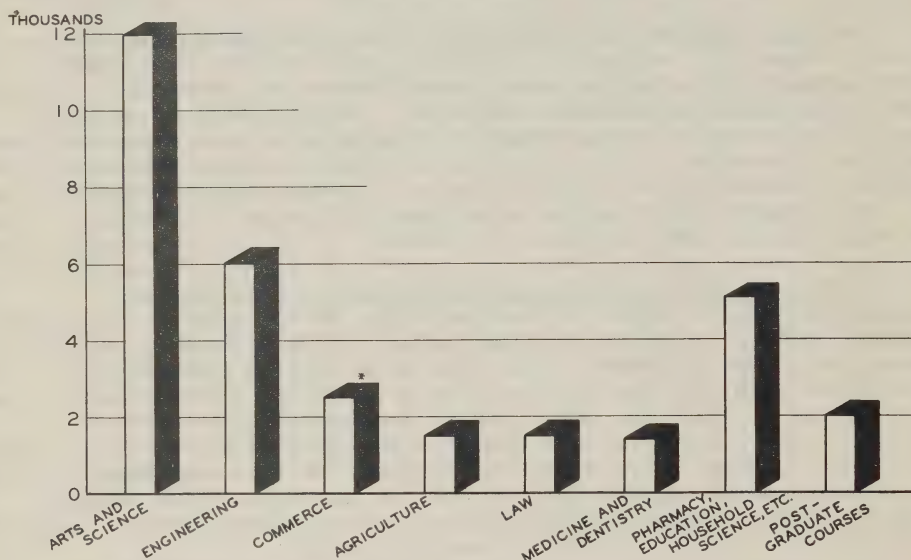
Signs of increased stability in the labour market were appearing. Rising living costs and uncertain economic conditions were making workers cautious and, as a result, labour turnover was falling. Reflecting this, the current volume of applicants registering and placements affected was 14 per cent below the level reported in 1946.

Labour situation for women changing--At November 13, a surplus of 8,000 women workers was reported at employment offices--the heaviest excess since the early months of 1946. To some extent, the reported shortage of jobs is fictitious as a heavy dormant demand continues to exist in many fields. It would appear, however, that there has been a gradual satiation of labour requirements for women over the past few months. Immigration has currently been responsible for meeting needs in the service and other industries. In addition, the rising cost of living has resulted in the increasing number of married women accepting



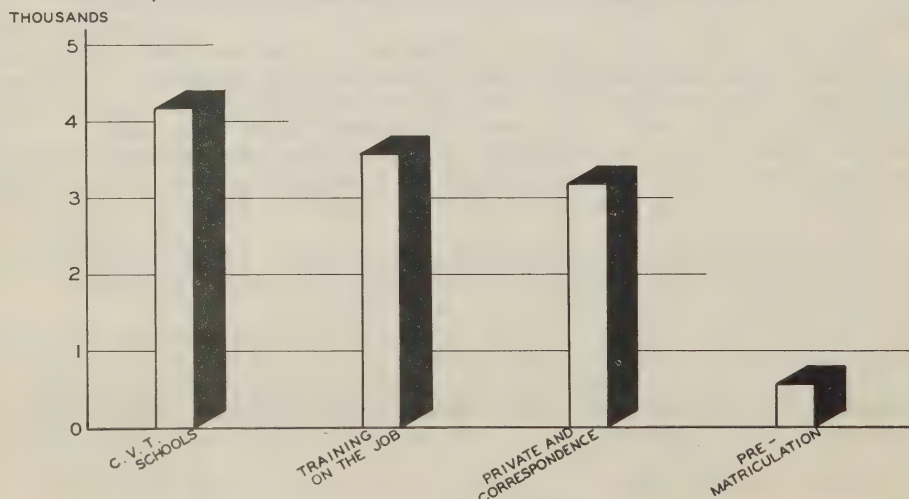
# VETERANS IN SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES

THERE ARE STILL 32,000 VETERANS IN UNIVERSITIES<sup>†</sup>



\* EXCLUDES COMMERCE STUDENTS ENROLLED IN UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO WHO HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

..... AND 12,000 IN CANADIAN VOCATIONAL TRAINING



part or full time employment in order to supplement the incomes of their husbands.

### VETERANS

One particular aspect of Employment Service activity involves the successful placement of ex-service personnel. The following discusses in some detail this phase of employment work.

Two years after hostilities concluded, less than 23,000 veterans were registered for work at employment offices—slightly less than two per cent of the total number discharged. The initial stages of rehabilitation, therefore, appeared to have passed with no serious unemployment developing. Unplaced veterans at their peak (March, 1946) totalled 83,000, but within a five-month period the number had been almost halved despite continuing high levels of demobilization.

The present high rate of absorption is, of course, the product of the prevailing state of full employment. Should any large scale readjustment in economic conditions take place, it would necessarily affect the veteran labour market.

Veterans presently in the labour market—Seasonal influences and chronic unemployment areas account for the bulk of veterans seeking work at employment offices. However, there are also a number of veterans currently appearing on the labour market who have been released from the stop-gap positions accepted immediately upon discharge. The tasks of rehabilitation such as training, reconstruction planning, rehabilitation liason work, etc. required a large working force and, as this phase of reconversion nears completion, staffs are rapidly being disbanded. Labour turnover also increased work applications, especially in highly competitive industrial centres such as Toronto and Montreal. Applications for employment were sustained at around 6,000 per week during the peak of employment and at about 8,000 during the winter slump.

Of the 23,000 veterans unplaced at the end of October, 14,000 or 39 per cent had not been on file two weeks before, indicating that a large number had only recently been thrown into the labour market. The unplaced veterans were concentrated mainly in four areas, Vancouver, Halifax, Winnipeg, and Saint John. These districts accounted for approximately 50 per cent of those on file.

In Vancouver, 4,900 were recorded, or more than 20 per cent of all unplaced veterans. The problem in this area arose out of the high seasonality of employment. The influx of applicants took place during the latter part of October as activity tapered off in agriculture, food processing, and construction; 39 per cent of the veterans registered at the end of October had not been on file two weeks before. In Winnipeg, a similar situation existed but less markedly. The number of unplaced veterans totalling 1,600 at the October date, 56 per cent of these were registered within the last two weeks.

The veteran problem in Halifax and Saint John is of a more permanent nature. The high level of unplaced applicants stems from the chronic unemployment conditions of the surrounding areas. Reflecting this, a much larger proportion of the registrations are of longer

duration. In the Halifax district, 3,200 veterans were recorded as unplaced with only 26 per cent having registered in the last two reporting weeks. In Saint John, the unplaced totalled 1,500, and similarly, only 26 per cent were of short-time registration.

Placing of veterans through National Employment Service—The Employment Service adheres to a strict policy of veterans preference. Quoting from the Employment Manual of the Unemployment Insurance Commission, Section E-604:

"As a matter of government policy veterans will be given preference in referral to employment by the local office. This preference will be accorded to men and women who have served overseas or who have been granted pensions...The preference consists in referring a veteran to a job ahead of other applicants if he is capable of doing the job."

The August and September levels were sustained in October, when placements of veterans averaged 3,400 per week. Since the beginning of 1947, 24 per cent of all placements effected by employment offices have been for veterans; a total of 161,400 ex-servicemen were placed in this period.

In the placement field, two main problems were confronted in finding jobs for ex-servicemen during 1947. The first of these, age discrimination, was the greatest obstacle. As demobilization began to taper off, the age distribution of applicants shifted markedly towards the older worker. In the early stages of demobilization, about one out of every twelve veterans seeking work was over 45; by 1947 approximately one out of eight was in the past 45 age group. Placements were sluggish among this class of worker, owing to the recurrent age discrimination practice. As a result, a backlog of unplaced older veterans developed. At the beginning of 1947, one out of every six veterans remaining on file was over 45; by the end of September the proportion has advanced to one out of every four.

Through the combined efforts of the National Employment Service and the Department of Veterans Affairs, a campaign was launched to uncover and destroy this discriminating practice. The placement rate responded to the campaign, and reached a peak of 2,500 hirings in the "past 45" age group during May - the highest level reported since the beginning of 1946. However, despite the accelerated hiring pace, the absorption rate of the older veteran continued proportionately below that for the younger ex-serviceman. There were 5,400 veterans of the First Great War still seeking employment at the end of October.

The age problem, both in the veteran and non-veteran fields, was most serious in Vancouver and Victoria, since for many years the favourable climatic conditions of British Columbia have attracted the older segment of the labour force. In Vancouver, the general labour surplus plays against the absorption of the older worker. Also, the large veteran population in both centres tends to lessen the effectiveness of veterans' preference where the older worker is concerned.

The second placement problem was rehabilitation of the disabled veteran. In this field, veterans' preference has been well supported, especially if it involved amputees. The job of placing the handicapped



veteran is undertaken by the Special Placement officer of N.E.S. and the Casualty Rehabilitation officer of DVA. Persons who cannot be placed through the usual procedure, including those who have mental rather than physical impairments, are referred to the DVA Review Board, which consists of a medical representative, psychiatrist, DVA staff member, and an employment officer. The cases submitted are reviewed individually; both medical and psychological factors are taken into account in determining suitable employment.

During the first ten months of 1947, a total of 6,400 handicapped veterans have been placed, of whom 3,800 received their positions through the National Employment Service. At October 14, there were 1,300 handicapped veterans remaining on file at employment offices.

Veterans not yet in the labour market--There are approximately 55,000 veterans who have not yet reached the labour market. This includes those in universities, in Canadian Vocational schools or training, and those not yet released from hospitals.

The university enrolment of veterans is estimated at 32,000, registrations under Canadian Vocational Training at 12,000, and the number of veterans apprenticing in the building trades, 4,000. The distribution of veterans, by type of training, is given in the chart included in this section. The absorption of those presently in training is largely dependent upon the maintenance of the present high levels of employment. Other factors, however, such as adequacy of training, mobility of the student force, number of trainees within the occupational groups, immigration and emigration, etc., will affect their successful establishment.

Training for veterans under the C.V.T. program is nearing completion. At the end of October, only 155 were still awaiting training. Applications will not be accepted later than December 31, 1947, and it is expected that all courses will have been completed by the summer of 1948. Since its inception, 130,000 veterans have enrolled for some type of training. Of these, 80,500, or about eight per cent of the number discharged, have completed courses under the C.V.T. plan.

A large number of veterans used the Canadian Vocational Training Schools as a stepping stone to further education. Over one third of all enrolments in the C.V.T. schools were in pre-matriculation courses. In the specialized trade courses, commercial classes had the largest enrolment, with 7,400 veterans. Motor mechanics ranked second with 5,600. Other classes showing relatively large enrolments were: Carpentry (3,800); Electrical Construction (3,700); Pattern Machine and Tool Operators (3,000); Drafting (2,400).

Most of the C.V.T. graduates have been satisfactorily absorbed into industry. In construction especially, the need has been great; demand still exceeds supply but few applicants for these trades are available. In courses other than construction, the demand has varied, since the intensified short course training in some instances has not qualified the veteran for the skilled positions available.

The impact of the 30,000 veteran under-graduate university students entering the labour market will be spread over the next four or five years. It is estimated that in the spring of 1948 approximately

5,000 will graduate and in 1949 about 10,000. The opportunities for persons in the professions was discussed in the June issue of the CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET.

Ex-service women—There were approximately 37,000 women in the armed services at the peak strength date. The re-establishment of these women into civilian life has presented no great problem in employment. Many became housewives, and a high proportion of the others enrolled for some type of training. The number of unplaced ex-service women at no time exceeded 1,200; by October 30 those on file had been scaled down to 840.

Approximately 10,500 ex-service women, more than 25 per cent of those discharged, registered for some type of training under C.V.T. Registrations were heavy in the prematriculation and commercial courses; in the remaining groups, hairdressing and dress making had the largest enrolments.

At the end of October 450 ex-service women were still in training at C.V.T. schools.

# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

## MANUFACTURING.....

Estimated employment (Nov.)....1,245,000

Unfilled vacancies..... 28,000

The past two years have seen a period of steady expansion in employment in the Canadian manufacturing industries. In spite of this increase however, employment is still well below the peak reached in 1943. The latest Dominion Bureau of Statistics index of manufacturing employment, at September 1, stood at 203.3 (1926 = 100), as against the comparable figure of 229.9 for September, 1943.

The postwar growth in the size of the labour force has been general in all manufacturing industries, with the most marked advances being registered in the pulp and paper products, beverages, electrical apparatus, and iron and steel groups.

Manufacturing employment will continue to expand, but at a more moderate rate, during the first quarter of 1948, according to estimates recently released by the Employment Forecast Survey of the Department of Labour.#

At the first of January 1948, employment in Canadian manufacturing industries is expected to be 4 per cent above the level one year previous. The probable percentage increase by April 1 over the 1947 level is placed at 2.8.

These estimates were made prior to the widespread changes in tariff and excise regulations. Shifts in employment among the sub-groups within manufacturing may take place as a result of these restrictions, but no major change in overall employment in manufacturing is foreseen during the next few months.

# This is a quarterly sample survey which obtains forecasts of employment on a three month and a six month basis, from over 800 of the largest industrial establishments in Canada. The number of workers included in the survey is over 565,000, of whom over 405,000 are employed in manufacturing industries. The first article in this issue of the Canadian Labour Market presents more detailed results of this survey.

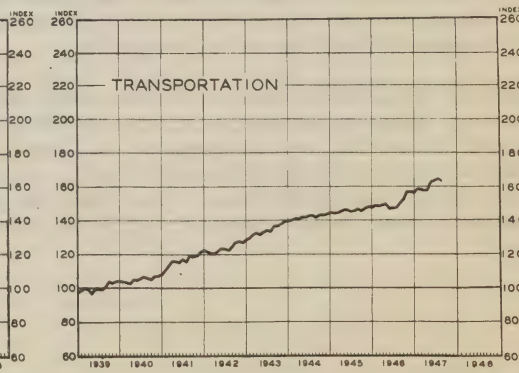
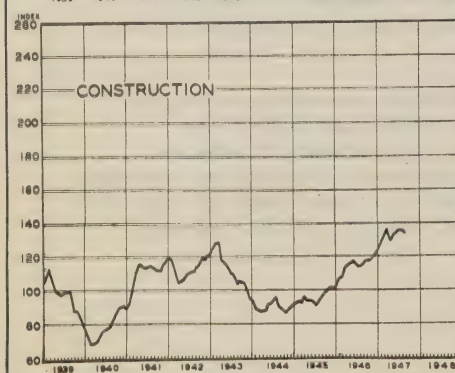
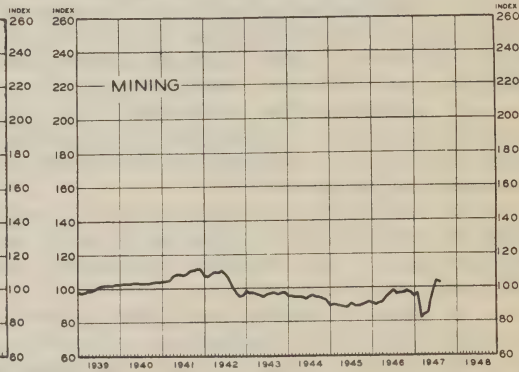
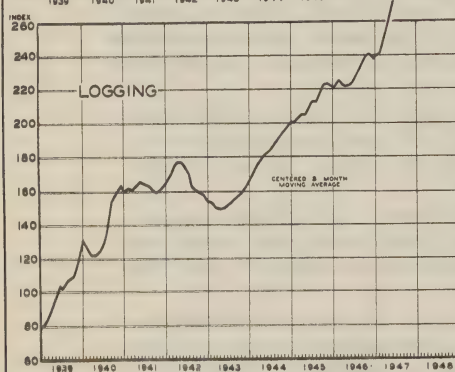
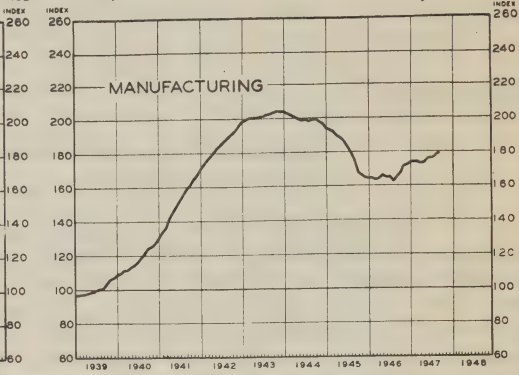
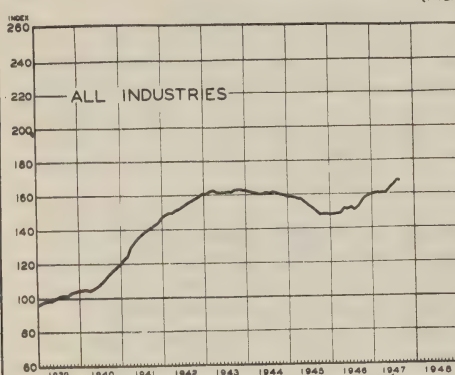


# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

## SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)



An accompanying feature of this employment expansion has been the steady rise in wage rates. Negotiations for wage increases became more prevalent during the latter part of 1947 as the cost-of-living index rose sharply. No general pattern is apparent in these wage increases but large sections of workers in the meat packing, textile, automobile and electrical apparatus industries were granted wage boosts. Most of these increases were centered within the 10 to 15 cents an hour range. At September 1, 1947, average weekly wages in manufacturing had risen to \$34.77, an increase of \$4.62 over the average at September 1, 1946

#### AGRICULTURE.....

Estimated employment (Nov.).....1,060,000

With the end of the harvest season, the size and composition of the Canadian agricultural labour force has altered considerably. Up to the middle of November, it was estimated that some 240,000 people had withdrawn from the industry. Of this total, approximately 130,000 were unpaid family workers, 60,000 were paid employees, and 50,000 own-account farmers. Many of these latter two categories have taken off-season jobs in other industries, notably logging. This trend can be expected to continue until agricultural employment reaches a level some 300,000 below the harvest peak.

In general, the volume of production achieved this year has been below the 1946 level. This has been due more to unfavourable weather conditions in all regions, with the exception of British Columbia, than to labour shortages. An estimate of the 1947 production of field crops, released on November 14 by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, shows this year's probable totals, in comparison with 1946, as follows: wheat 340.8 million bushels (413.7 in 1946); oats 282.7 million bushels (371.1); barley 141.5 million bushels (148.9); mixed grains 35.7 million (53.0).

Root and fodder crop production in 1947 is estimated as follows, with the 1946 figures in brackets: potatoes 44,623,000 cwt. (47,963,000 cwt.); turnips etc. 21,041,000 cwt. (26,997,000); hay and clover, 16,537,000 tons (14,372,800); fodder corn 3,865,000 tons (3,970,000).

Despite this decreased volume of production, favourable prices have assisted in maintaining farm income. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index of farm prices of agricultural products stood at 200.1 at September 1, compared to the September 1, 1946, figure of 184.6. Cash income received by Canadian farmers from the sale of farm products and from supplementary payments amounted to \$753.9 million in the first six months of 1947, as against \$731.0 million and \$647.1 million for the corresponding periods in 1945 and 1946 respectively. Average wage rates paid to male farm help are higher than at any time since comparable statistics became available in 1940. At August 15, 1947, the Canada average of farm wages without board was \$109.03, and with board \$82.75, per month.

TRADE.....

Estimated employment (Nov.).....675,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 8,300

There are indications the period of expansion in sales and employment in the trading industries has ended. This year, retail sales have increased in dollar value but decreased in physical volume. Increasing costs and inventory losses have intensified the effect of this drop in volume.

During the first nine months of 1947, the value of retail sales averaged 10 per cent above 1946. When allowance is made for the price factor, however, it appears that the volume of sales has been running below last year. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index of retail prices, which covers only part of the retail field, stood at 154.7 at September 1, 1947, as against 135.0 at the same date in 1946.

Despite this levelling-off in sales, employment in both retail and wholesale trade has been increasing steadily during 1947. At September 1, the index of retail trade employment was 210.6 (1926 = 100), compared to the figure of 197.4 at September 1, 1946. For wholesale trade, the comparable figures were 195.7 and 178.1.

A slight drop, less than 1 per cent, in department store employment from the 1946 level is forecast for the first quarter of 1948. This estimate is based on reports received by the Department of Labour, from leading departmental stores and mail order houses, whose employment totalled 51,000 as at October 1, 1947.

Of the 8,300 unfilled vacancies in this industry reported to the National Employment Service at the first of November, 6,200 were in retail trade and 2,100 in wholesale trade. On a regional basis, the total was divided as follows: Ontario 56 per cent, Quebec 21 per cent, Prairies 12 per cent; Maritimes 7 per cent and the Pacific 4 per cent.

No breakdown of vacancies by occupation is available but department stores report that they are now weeding out unsuitable employees and able to exercise greater selectivity in hiring. The supply of applicants for counter work is reported as satisfactory but some stores are finding it difficult to secure waitresses, elevator operators, and cleaners.

TRANSPORTATION and COMMUNICATIONS.....

Estimated employment (Nov.).....380,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 2,300

The majority of the workers in the transportation industries normally enjoy conditions of steady employment at higher wage rates than most other Canadian industries. During the period under review, employment remained stable but wage negotiations were being carried on in several sections of the industry which will further increase the level of wage rates in the industry.



On November 20, seventeen international railway unions, representing 140,000 workers, demanded a wage increase of 35 cents an hour, to become effective December 20. Earlier this fall, a threatened railroad strike was averted when most of the workers were granted vacations with pay on a sliding scale as recommended by a government appointed arbitration board.

In British Columbia, some 2,850 street railway workers obtained wage increases of 15 cents an hour across-the-board, 10 cents of which is to be retroactive to March 1, 1947. This increase was obtained after a 29-day strike, from October 20 to November 18, which tied up public transportation facilities in Vancouver, Victoria, and New Westminster.

It is reported that seamen on Upper Lakes and St. Lawrence vessels will receive a \$10 per month pay raise, retroactive to August 1. As well, seamen employed on Quebec and Ontario transport vessels from May 1 to December 1 will receive a special "Employment Season" bonus of \$40. Seamen employed from September 1 only will receive \$20.

In the province of Quebec, negotiations were in progress during November between the Automotive Transport Association and the Transport Drivers Union, AFL, involving an estimated 12,000 truck drivers. Settlement had not been reached at the middle of November, although a premature report had stated a 25 cent an hour increase had been agreed upon at November 14.

Even before these increases, earnings in the transportation industry were as high as those of any industry for which comparable statistics are available. Average weekly earnings in transportation now are over \$44.00, according to the latest estimates of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This is approximately the same as the average for the mining industry. A further breakdown shows that steam railway workers averaged \$50.00; street railway workers \$39.00; and those in shipping and stevedoring \$37.00.

These averages compare with the \$37.00 received in manufacturing; \$40.13 in rubber products; \$28.00 in textile products; \$43.00 in pulp and paper products; and \$41.00 in iron and steel production.

#### LOGGING.....

Estimated employment (Nov.).....	120,000
Additional required.....	20,000

Seasonal expansion in logging employment proceeded rapidly during the month of November. Early in the month, employment in pulpwood logging was 20 per cent above the level of the previous year and was increasing at the rate of 4,000 per week. On the average during the 1947-48 season, it is estimated that the Canadian pulp and paper industry will employ 15 per cent more loggers in the bush than in the previous year.

This increase in employment is based on a continuing world-wide shortage of pulp and paper products, especially newsprint. Curtailment of exports by England and Australia will not cut into total demand severely as United States publishers will take all the newsprint produced here for at least the next two years.

Logging in Eastern Canada appeared to be in an especially favourable position. Excellent cutting weather prevailed throughout September and October, and because of the early end of the agricultural season, especially in Quebec where there were many crop failures, many more farmers were available earlier for logging employment. Fewer men were entering the United States for woods work and this also helped the domestic manpower situation.

Indications are that the 1947-48 season will not see such an extreme shortage of labour as in previous years. The number of additional men required is lower this season, with the only general shortage of men being in Northwestern Ontario where several new mills have come into operation.

For the week ending November 15, labour demand in pulpwood logging in Eastern Canada was estimated at 15,000. Last year at the same date, the comparable figure was 25,000.

The introduction of some 3,000 D.P's into the labour force, with 1,500 more expected, will also add stability to the employment situation and greatly assist in reducing the high rate of labour turnover. Much of the labour demand in logging is due to the fact that the average logger stays in the bush for only part of the season. In this connection, an official of a large pulp and paper company, reporting to the Department of Labour, remarked:

"Average time spent in the woods is 21 days. You could say, in a sense, that our whole logging staff turns over every month. Men are constantly shifting from one of our camps to another.....

"We have some 1,500 D.P's in our camps, mostly around the head of the lakes and Sault Ste. Marie. As far as I know, they are doing all right for unskilled men. At first, they weren't much use to us in the way of production, but now we are securing a fair cut from them."

In British Columbia, where the emphasis is on lumber rather than pulpwood logging, skilled men are scarce, although there is a surplus of unskilled labour seeking work in the woods. No work stoppages are expected in west coast logging during the winter months. The principal operators in all three major forest areas have completed new collective bargaining agreements which provide for "across the board" hourly wage increases of from 10 cents to 12½ cents.

#### MINING.....

Estimated employment (Nov.).....79,000  
Unfilled vacancies..... 3,700

The announcement of government legislation for gold subsidization was the most significant development in the gold mining industry during the month of November. The three-year plan, effective immediately, provides subsidy payments of \$7.00 a fine ounce to gold mining companies on all gold in excess of that produced in the year ending June, 1947.

Criticism of the new plan was voiced by the industry on several grounds. Some mining men had hoped for a free market in gold or a general price increase. Others stated that increased costs, including possible new wage demands, would nullify the gain; that the shortage of labour was one of the main factors holding up production and until this problem is solved, capacity production would not be achieved. It was also pointed out that the big mines are already producing at near capacity and would not be helped as much relatively as the newer or smaller mines which might be able to double production.

Chiefly due to labour shortages, fixed prices, rising costs, and the effect of dollar parity, employment and production in gold mining has never regained the pre-war level. The following table shows the trend of these two factors since 1939.

Table I--Employment and Production in the Canadian Gold Mining Industry, 1939 to 1947

(Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Year	Production <sup>1</sup>	Employment
1939.....	184.1	29,000
1940.....	204.5	30,000
1941.....	205.8	32,000
1942.....	186.4	26,000
1943.....	140.6	19,000
1944.....	112.5	17,000
1945.....	94.4	16,000
1946.....	99.0	18,000
1947 (first half).....	53.0	19,000

<sup>1</sup> In Millions of Dollars

In an effort to attract more men to the mines, several B.C. companies, including Bralorne, Pioneer, Cariboo Quartz, and Island Mountain Mines, have granted voluntary wage increases, and other mining companies are expected to follow suit. Generally, these gave a \$1.00 per shift increase to miners, 75¢ per shift to underground workers and 60¢ per shift to surface workers. In these companies, miners' daily wage rates now range from \$8.11 to \$8.26 and general underground workers from \$7.21 to \$7.61. The United Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union is expected to ask for further wage increases for B.C. miners if the recently announced federal assistance plan proves successful. As it now stands, there is every indication the B.C. gold mines will benefit more from the new subsidy than any other gold mines in Canada since their production was well below normal during the war years.



# AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS IN CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

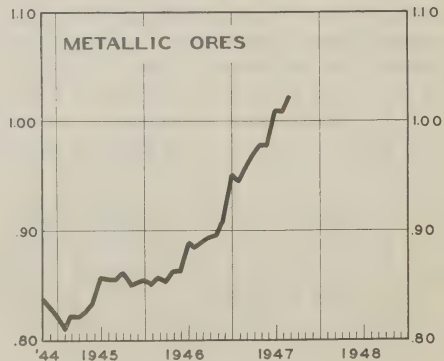
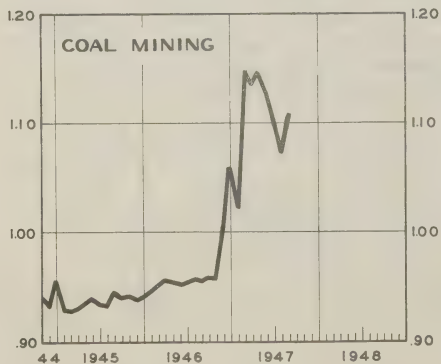
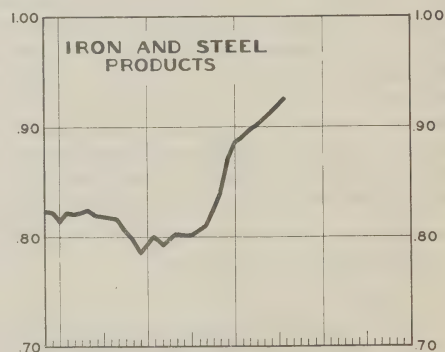
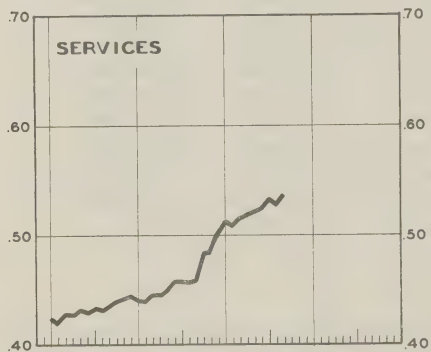
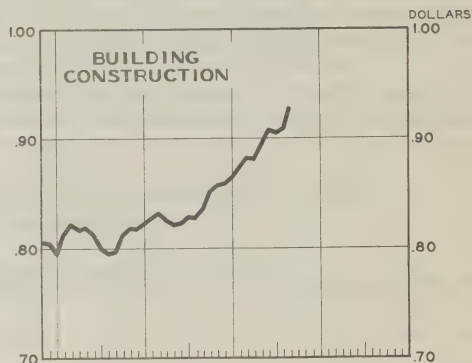
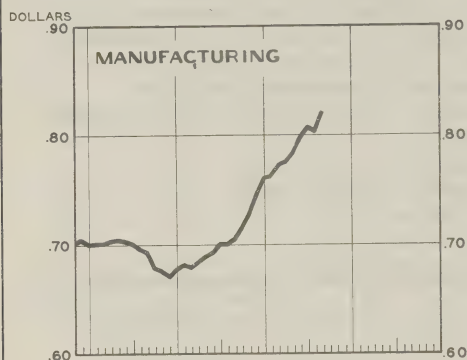


Table II—Average Hours and Hourly Earnings - Average  
Weekly wages in Major Canadian Industries

(Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

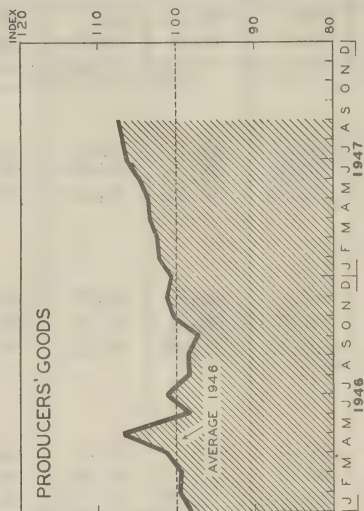
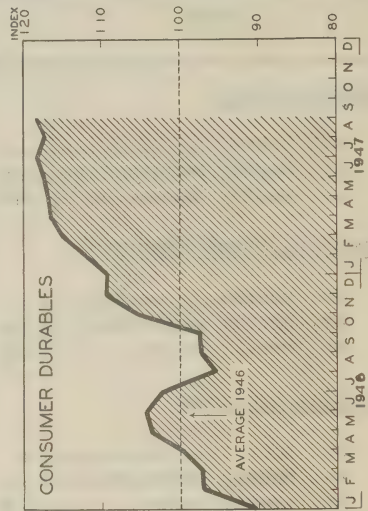
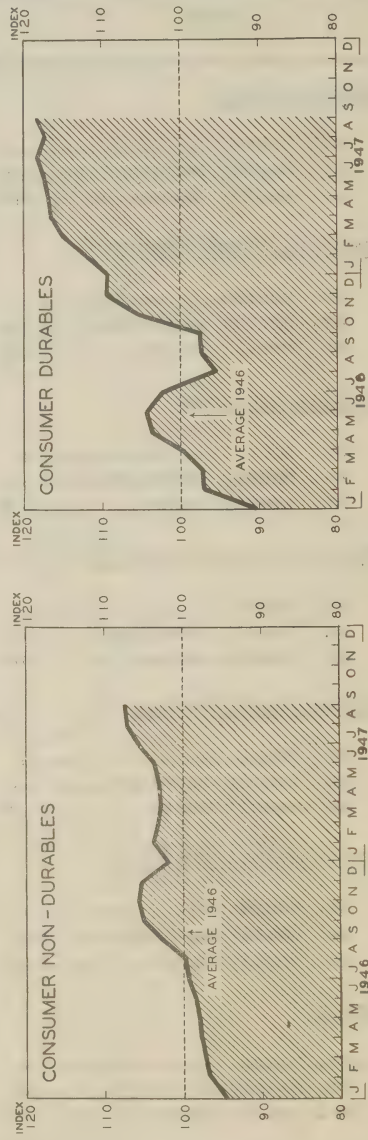
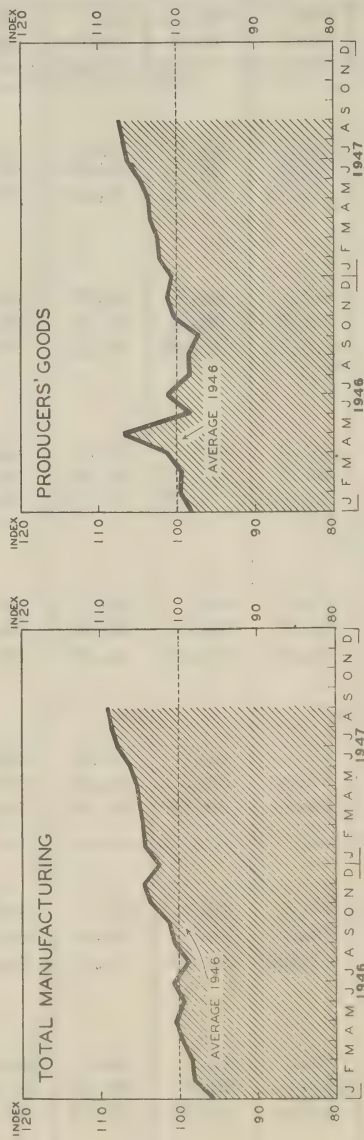
Item	Sept. 1 1947	Aug. 1 1947	July 1 1947	Sept. 1 1946	Aug. 1 1946
<u>Manufacturing</u>					
Av. hours.....	42.3	42.5	42.1	42.7	43.0
Av. hourly earnings.....¢	82.2	81.3	80.8	70.6	70.0
Av. weekly wages.....\$	34.77	34.35	34.02	30.15	30.10
<u>Iron and Steel Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	43.0	42.7	42.7	42.3	42.9
Av. hourly earnings.....¢	93.3	92.4	91.7	81.1	80.5
Av. weekly wages.....\$	40.12	39.45	39.16	34.31	34.53
<u>Textile Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	40.5	40.2	39.2	41.6	41.6
Av. hourly earnings.....¢	63.2	62.4	61.8	56.5	55.0
Av. weekly wages.....\$	25.60	25.08	24.23	23.45	22.88
<u>Pulp and Paper Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	45.9	46.1	45.7	45.6	46.1
Av. hourly earnings.....¢	91.9	91.5	91.4	78.4	77.6
Av. weekly wages.....\$	42.18	42.18	41.77	35.75	35.77
<u>Edible Plant Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	40.6	41.6	41.2	40.9	41.5
Av. hourly earnings.....¢	65.8	64.3	64.8	57.7	57.4
Av. weekly wages.....\$	26.71	26.75	26.70	23.60	23.82
<u>Edible Animal Products</u>					
Av. hours.....	42.6	42.8	43.8	42.7	42.9
Av. hourly earnings.....¢	75.0	74.3	74.5	66.1	65.0
Av. weekly wages.....\$	31.95	31.80	32.63	28.22	27.89
<u>Mining</u>					
Av. hours.....	42.5	42.9	42.2	42.9	42.9
Av. hourly earnings.....¢	100.4	98.6	98.9	87.4	87.8
Av. weekly wages.....\$	42.67	42.30	41.74	37.49	37.67
<u>Building Construction</u>					
Av. hours.....	40.0	40.5	38.5	39.5	40.4
Av. hourly earnings.....¢	92.9	91.4	90.5	83.7	82.8
Av. weekly wages.....\$	37.16	37.02	34.84	33.06	33.45

# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

## MAJOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

(INDUSTRIES GROUPED ACCORDING TO GENERAL USE OF PRODUCTS)

1946 — 1947





## SUMMARY OF ECONOMIC SITUATION IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Current conditions for various manufacturing industries, are evaluated in the following table with respect to markets, plant facilities, labour supply, supply of materials, and prices. These evaluations are based on all available statistical data as well as on reports from field interviewers of the Employment Forecast Survey and local office managers of the National Employment Service. The summary refers to conditions which existed during the month of November, 1947.

In general, the demand for consumer non-durable goods is equal to the current supply; industries producing canned fruits and vegetables, dairy products, and metal products are exceptions. Plant facilities are adequate in most consumer non-durable industries, as is the supply of labour. The relatively small harvest in Canada this year has caused a shortage of raw materials for some food industries. The clothing industry is experiencing a shortage of certain quality cloths. The prices of most consumer non-durable goods are rising; the one exception to this is drugs.

Reflecting the high level of activity in most consumer non-durable industries, as well as the strong export demand, industries primary to consumer non-durables are experiencing a much greater demand for their goods than they can presently meet. Extensive plant expansion amongst these industries is taking place, especially in the pulp and paper industries. There is a shortage of both labour and materials. Prices, of course, are rising.

The demand for consumer durable goods is well in excess of the current supply; the one exception here is furniture, where high prices have lowered effective demand to some extent. Plant expansion is being extensively undertaken by firms producing these goods. Accordingly, there is a shortage of labour and of materials, and prices are rising.

The demand for producer goods is very strong. A great deal of plant expansion is occurring, although operations are currently below capacity in industries producing rubber tires and tubes and aircraft. Most steel-using industries are experiencing a shortage of this material. Generally, the supply of labour is adequate. Prices are rising.

Summary of Economic Situation in Manufacturing Industries  
Month of November, 1947

Industry	Markets	Plant Facilities	Labour Supply	Supply of Materials	Prices
<u>Consumer Non-Durables -</u>					
Food:					
Bakery Products.....	Balanced	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Rising
Fruits & Vegetables...	Strong	Adequate	Adequate	Short	Rising
Dairy Products.....	Strong	Adequate	Adequate	Short	Rising
Meat Products.....	Strong	Adequate	Adequate	Short	Rising
Fish Products.....	Balanced	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Rising
Beverages.....	Balanced	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Stable
Clothing.....	Balanced	Adequate	Short	Short	Rising
Boots & Shoes.....	Balanced	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Rising
Drugs.....	Balanced	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Falling
Printing & Publishing...	Balanced	Adequate	Short	Short	Rising
Tobacco.....	Balanced	Adequate	Short	Adequate	Stable
<u>Industries Ancillary to Consumer Non-Durables -</u>					
Flour & Feed Mills.....	Strong	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Rising
Primary Textiles.....	Strong	Adequate	Short	Short	Rising
Pulp & Paper.....	Strong	Short	Short	Adequate	Stable
Containers.....	Strong	Adequate	Adequate	Short	Rising
Leather Tanneries.....	Balanced	Adequate	Short	Short	Rising
<u>Consumer Durables -</u>					
Furniture.....	Balanced	Adequate	Short	Adequate	Stable
Household Appliances...	Strong	Short	Short	Short	Rising
Automobiles & Parts.....	Strong	Short	Adequate	Short	Rising
<u>Producer Goods -</u>					
Machinery.....	Strong	Adequate	Short	Short	Rising
Primary Iron & Steel....	Strong	Short	Adequate	Short	Rising
Agricultural Implements..	Strong	Short	Adequate	Short	Rising
Chemical Products.....	Strong	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Stable
Non-Ferrous Metals.....	Strong	Adequate	Short	Adequate	Rising
Construction Materials..	Strong	Adequate	Adequate	Short	Rising
Petroleum Products.....	Strong	Short	Adequate	Short	Stable
Rubber Tires & Tubes....	Weak	Surplus	Adequate	Surplus	Stable
Sawmills.....	Strong	Short	Adequate	Short	Rising
Aircraft & Parts.....	Weak	Surplus	Surplus	Adequate	Stable
Shipbuilding & Repair...	Balanced	Adequate	Adequate	Short	Rising
Railroad Equipment.....	Strong	Adequate	Short	Short	Rising

Glossary of Terms

Markets

- "Strong" - applies to all industries where the demand for their products is considerably in excess of the current supply.
- "Balanced" - applies to all industries where the current demand for their products is approximately equal to the current supply, whether this situation be due to decrease in effective demand on account of price rises or to an increase in the supply of goods.
- "Weak" - applies to all industries where the supply of goods currently available is greater than the demand.

Plant Facilities

- "Short" - applies to all industries where operations are currently at or near capacity, and where active steps are being taken or are contemplated in the immediate future in order to expand plant facilities.
- "Adequate" - applies to all industries where operations are currently at or near capacity but where no active steps are being taken or are contemplated in the immediate future to expand plant facilities further.
- "Surplus" - applies to all industries where current operations are below the capacity level.

Labour

- "Short" - applies to all industries where there are fairly extensive shortages of labour, even if such shortages are confined to specific occupations.
- "Adequate" - applies to all industries where the current supply of labour is sufficient to meet the demand but where no extensive surplus exists.
- "Surplus" - applies to all industries where many workers usually employed in the respective industries are currently out of work.



Materials

- "Short" - applies to all industries where difficulties are being experienced in obtaining an adequate supply of raw materials to meet current demands.
- "Adequate" - applies to all industries where there are no major difficulties being experienced in obtaining raw materials.
- "Surplus" - applies to all industries where the volume of raw materials is considerably greater than necessary for a present level of operations.

Prices

- "Rising" - self-explanatory.
- "Stable" - self-explanatory.
- "Falling" - self-explanatory.

## RECENT WAGE CHANGES

Since wage control was relaxed, the number of firms granting wage concessions to their employees has greatly increased. In many cases, these wage increases have been directly due to the rise in the cost of living which has been taking place. Increased living costs have been particularly sharp in the past few months and seem likely to continue. In the immediate future, therefore, one of the most significant developments in the Canadian economy will be the extent to which such wage gains keep pace with the rise in the cost of living.

In view of the above, it has been decided to keep a record of the wage changes which occur from month to month. In addition, an attempt will eventually be made to evaluate the effect of wage changes which do occur on the wage indexes which are published by the Department of Labour.

Each month, therefore, a list of all the reported wage changes which occur, and for which information is available, will be published in this report. The first of such lists appears in the following pages of this section of the Canadian Labour Market.

The sources of information on wage announcements are numerous. The announcements which will appear in this listing are obtained from press clippings, trade journals, union newspapers and magazines, narrative reports from the managers of local National Employment Service offices, narrative reports from the field interviewers of the Employment Forecast Survey carried out by this Branch and any other sources which are available. These individual wage changes will be listed each month according to the industry in which the specific firm is classified.

It should be understood that the wage changes which are reported in the following listing do not represent all the changes that have occurred. There is no disciplined means of establishing such a complete record. The listing, however, will contain most of the major wage announcements, and will indicate the pattern that is being followed in most industries. All of the items in this listing will be confined to wage earning employees.

The wage change announcements which appear in the following pages were made during the months of October and November of this year. They affect a total of almost 42,000 workers. The increases range from 5 to 15 cents an hour, with most of them being confined to the 10 to 15 cent-an-hour range. Many of the smaller wage increases were accompanied by other gains, such as longer vacations with pay and various kinds of pension and welfare plans.

RECENT WAGE INCREASES

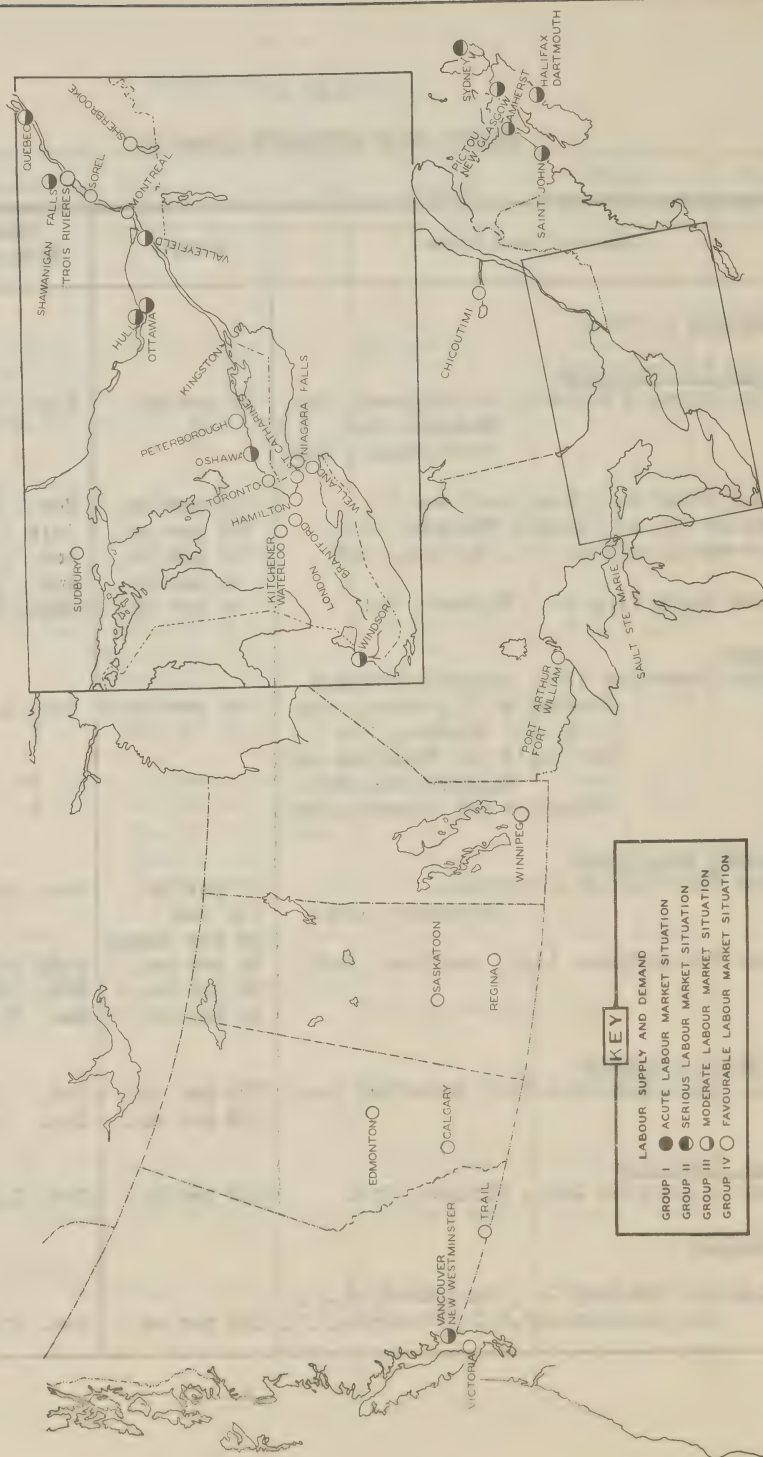
Industry and Firm	Amount	Date Effective	Number Affected
<u>MINING</u>			
<u>Gold Mining:</u>			
Island Mountain Mines, Co. Ltd., B.C.	\$1 per day	Oct. 20/47	79
Bralorne Mines, Ltd., B.C.	"	"	333
Pioneer Gold Mines of B.C., Ltd., B.C.	"	"	108
Cariboo Gold Quartz Mining Co., Ltd., B.C.	"	"	255
<u>Base Metal Mining:</u>			
Sherritt Gordon Mines Ltd., Man.	14¢ per hr.	Nov. 20/47	400
<u>MANUFACTURING</u>			
<u>Primary Textile Products:</u>			
Canadian Cottons, Ltd., Milltown, N.B.	9¢ per hr.	Nov. 4/47	633
St. John, N.B.	"	"	133
Marysville, N.B.	"	"	630
Hamilton, Ont.	"	Nov. 17/47	491
Cornwall, Ont.(3)	"	"	1,900
Monarch Knitting Co. Ltd., Toronto, Ont. (2)	10¢ per hr.	Sept. 10/47	600
Dominion Textile Co. Ltd., Montmorency, Que.	15-18¢ per hr.	Apr. 15/47	1,768
Sherbrooke, Que.	"	"	736
Magog, Que.	"	"	508
Drummondville, Que.	"	"	1,756
France Canadian Dyers, Ltd., St. Johns, Que.	8¢ per hr.	Nov. 17/47	175
St. Johns Textile Mills, Ltd. " "	"	"	154
Demetre Sault & Ciriez Ltd., St. Johns, Que.	"	"	93
Trent Cotton Co. Ltd., Trenton, Ont.	10-22¢ per hr.	Nov. 1/47	190
<u>Clothing:</u>			
Empire Shirt Man. Co., Louisville, Que.	12½¢ per hr.	May 1/47	190
<u>Food Processing:</u>			
Bestoval Canning Co., Vancouver, B.C.	10-12¢ per hr.	Sept. 17/47	192
Canadian Cannors Ltd., Vancouver, B.C.	"	"	300
Maritime National Fish Co., Halifax, N.S.	5¢ per hr.	Oct. 10/47	302
<u>Leather and its Products:</u>			
La Salle Slipper Co., Montreal, Que.	20-28%	Oct. 22/47	200



RECENT WAGE INCREASES (Cont'd)

Industry and Firm	Amount	Date Effective	Number Affected
<b>MANUFACTURING (Cont'd)</b>			
<u>Iron and its Products:</u>			
Ontario Shipyard Workers, Collingwood, Ont.	5¢ per hr.	Nov. 1/47	826
Midland, Ont.	"	"	128
Port Arthur, Ont.	"	"	646
National Steel Car, Hamilton, Ont.	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per hr.	Nov. 1/47	1,500
Ford Motor Co. of Canada, Windsor, Ont.	10% per hr.	July 14/47	10,000
Electro-Metallurgical Co., Welland, Ont.	17¢ per hr.	Oct. 13/47	1,400
	4¢ per hr.	Apr. 1/48	
Champion Spark Plug Co., Windsor, Ont.	7¢ per hr.	Sept. 1/47	2,000
<u>Beverages:</u>			
Canadian Breweries Ltd., Ontario Division			
Brading's (2), Ottawa, Ont.	5¢ per hr.	Oct. 1/47	315
B. A. (1) Windsor, Ont.	"	"	135
Carling's (2) Waterloo and	"	"	489
Walkerville, Ont.	"	"	707
O'Keefe's (3) Toronto, Ont.	"	"	
<u>Electrical Apparatus:</u>			
Dominion Electrohome Industries,	7¢ per hr.	Oct. 16/47	300
Kitchener, Ont.	for men		
	3¢ for women		
Canadian Westinghouse Ltd., Hamilton, Ont.	6¢ per hr.	July 28/47	4,500
	6¢ per hr.	Oct. 28/47	
	4¢ per hr.	Mar. 31/48	
<u>Other Metal Products:</u>			
Canadian Johns-Manville Co., Asbestos, Que.	17¢ per hr.	Oct. 1/47	2,000
	10¢ per hr.	Jan. 1/47	
<u>Chemical Products:</u>			
Canadian Industries Ltd., Windsor, Ont.	15¢ per hr.	Oct. 1/47	430
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
B.C. Electric Railway Co., Vancouver, B.C.,			
New Westminster, B.C., Victoria, B.C.	15¢ per hr.	Nov. 17/47	3,694

# A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT NOVEMBER 1, 1947



# LABOUR MARKET RATING OF COMMUNITIES

## Introduction

In the following table, 38 of the major labour market areas in Canada are classified according to the number of unplaced applicants registered with the National Employment Service office in each. This classification is based on a ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 non-agricultural wage and salary workers at work.

In addition, these ratios have been consolidated into four groups, denoting four generally different labour market situations. The four groups can be explained as follows:

Group I -- Areas in which there are more than 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 non-agricultural wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the Mid-Thirties.

Group II -- Areas in which there are between 150 and 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group is characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III -- Areas in which there are from 50 to 150 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV -- Areas in which there are under 50 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Favourable, in the sense that it is comparable to conditions during the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be understood that the above ratio is only a general method of classifying labour market conditions as they are pictured by the local National Employment Service office. The ratings for October and November of 1947 are preliminary.

A detailed definition of the term "unplaced applicant" will be found in the following section of this report.



Table I--Labour Market Rating of Communities

Note: The thirty-eight areas below are arranged in descending order within each group.

Area Table Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		November 1, 1947	October 1, 1947	November 1, 1946
	<u>Population of 100,000 and over</u>			
57	Quebec.....	III	III	III
66	Vancouver.....	III	III	III
64	Windsor.....	III	III	II
61	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
64	Winnipeg.....	IV	IV	III
59	Hamilton.....	IV	IV	III
56	Montreal.....	IV	IV	IV
63	Toronto.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 50,000 to 100,000</u>			
55	Sydney.....	II	II	II
54	Halifax.....	III	III	III
55	Saint John.....	III	III	III
65	Calgary.....	IV	IV	III
65	Edmonton.....	IV	IV	IV
59	Fort William-Port Arthur.....	IV	IV	III
64	Regina.....	IV	IV	IV
60	London.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 25,000 to 50,000</u>			
56	Hull.....	III	III	III
61	Oshawa.....	III	III	III
58	Three Rivers.....	IV	III	III
66	Victoria.....	IV	IV	IV
60	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
65	Saskatoon.....	IV	IV	IV
62	St. Catharines.....	IV	IV	IV
59	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
62	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
63	Sudbury.....	IV	IV	IV
57	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
60	Kitchener-Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of under 25,000</u>			
55	New Glasgow-Pictou.....	III	II	I
54	Amherst.....	III	III	III
58	Valleyfield.....	III	III	III
57	Shawinigan Falls.....	III	IV	III
63	Welland.....	IV	IV	III
58	Sorel.....	IV	IV	III
56	Chicoutimi.....	IV	IV	IV
61	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	IV
62	Sault Ste. Marie.....	IV	IV	III
66	Trail.....	IV	IV	IV

### Explanation of Changes in Rating of Selected Areas

During the past twelve months, there have been several changes in the labour market rating for certain areas. The reasons for some of these changes is outlined below.

#### Windsor

Twelve months ago, labour market conditions in Windsor were Serious. At November 1, 1947, however, conditions had improved to a point where they could be classified as Moderate. The latest employment figures show the reason for this improvement--a gain of 9,200 wage and salary workers at work has occurred during the past twelve months.

One year ago, production in the automobile and parts industry was seriously curtailed by shortages of materials resulting from widespread industrial disputes in basic industries throughout the country. In addition, several manufacturing plants in the immediate Windsor area were strike-bound. At the beginning of September, 1946, the following strikes had been in effect for three months: Chrysler Corporation, 2,250 workers idle; Canadian Industries Limited, 375 idle workers; and the Truscon Steel Company, 150 workers on strike.

Employment in Windsor fluctuates with conditions in the automotive industry, which itself directly provides 10 per cent of total manufacturing employment. Indirectly, this industry stimulates a goodly part of the non-manufacturing field, particularly trade and service. It may be said that the 25 per cent increase of employment in the automobile industry during last year was largely responsible for the marked improvement in the labour market conditions.

This factor has been so important, as a matter of fact, in improving employment conditions in Windsor that it has more than off-set the net influx of workers to this area from other parts of the country which took place during the past year.

#### Winnipeg

At this time in 1946, labour market conditions in Winnipeg were classified as Moderate. Now, however, conditions have further improved to the point where they can be characterized as Favourable.

Employment in almost all industries has increased in Winnipeg during the past year. Paralleling this development has been a decrease in the number of unplaced applicants registered with the local Employment Service office.

The increase of 3,900 in wage and salary workers over the year was fairly evenly divided between manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries. In manufacturing industries, the greatest percentage gains in employment occurred in the textile and clothing industry, printing and publishing, and iron and steel. In industries other than manufacturing, percentage gains were evenly distributed among transportation and communication, construction, trade and finance, and service.

In general, the prosperity of Winnipeg was a reflection of the high level of farm incomes enjoyed throughout the Prairie Provinces.

### Hamilton

In Hamilton, too, labour market conditions have moved from a Moderate classification to a Favourable state during the past 12 months.

The number of wage and salary workers has increased from 68,800 in 1946 to 87,900 at present, a gain of over 19,000. This gain, however, is somewhat misleading; the volume of employment at this time in 1946 was unusually low because of the large number of workers on strike.

The following strikes were in progress at the beginning of September last year: The Steel Company of Canada, 3,000 workers; the Frost Steel and Wire Company, 450 workers; Canadian Westinghouse Company, 3,500 workers; and the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, 1,325 workers. In total, over 8,000 workers were on strike.

In addition to the direct effects of these strikes on unemployment in Hamilton, the material shortages resulting in other major industries in the area, as well as in other areas in the country, indirectly affected employment and caused a further decline.

By the end of October, 1946, all industrial disputes in Hamilton had been terminated (with the exception of the strike of the Hamilton Spectator employees), but the after-effects of these walk-outs were long-lasting. It was not until the beginning of 1947 that employment in Hamilton again reached its pre-strike level. It is now well above even that point.

### Calgary

Calgary, like Winnipeg, has experienced an improvement in labour market conditions over the past year. Employment conditions, formerly classified as Moderate, now are Favourable.

This city is essentially a service and distributing centre for the southern part of the Province of Alberta. As in the case of Winnipeg, therefore, the increase in farm income has been the basic reason for the current prosperity in Calgary.

In view of the above, employment gains over the past year have been relatively greater in non-manufacturing industries than in the manufacturing field, 15 per cent and 2 per cent respectively. Percentage increases were highest in construction, coal mining, hotels and restaurants, and retail and wholesale trade.

### Fort William - Port Arthur

The decided improvement in labour market conditions in the Fort William - Port Arthur area during the past year has stemmed chiefly from expansion in logging and construction combined with a moderate employment upswing in sawmills and iron and steel manufacturing. In line with the more prosperous conditions of other industries, the trade, finance and service fields are also employing more persons now than at this time last year.

Stimulated by an almost unprecedented demand for newsprint and lumber, pulp and paper plants experienced an increase in employment of 10 per cent during the past 12 months, while employment in local sawmills gained 30 per cent over the same period. At November 15, 1947, the daily average number of men engaged in pulpwood cutting in the Thunder Bay district was 7,831 compared to 4,916 at a corresponding date of a year ago. This time last year, however, logging camp staffs were not yet back to normal after the month-long strike of 6,000 loggers in the Lakehead and Timmins areas.



The construction industry, which was seriously hampered by material shortages during the Summer and Fall of 1946, doubled its employment in the 12 months ending September 1, 1947. Material supplies, although still far from adequate, have become more readily available during the past year, and the demand for labour has grown correspondingly strong. Among the largest construction projects in this area are the building of the Long Lac Pulp and Paper Company mill and Townsite at Terrace Bay, and the Hydro Electric Power company's Schreiber Dam project.

At September 1, 1947, employment in the iron and steel industry was 24 per cent higher than one year ago. Increased supplies of basic iron and steel over the year were chiefly responsible for this employment gain. During the last quarter of 1946, steel supplies were extremely low because of the lengthy strikes in the primary steel industry throughout the country. Accordingly, from August 1 to October 1, 1946, the Canadian Car and Foundry Company in Fort William was forced to reduce its staff from 1,200 to a post-war low of 800. During the past year, this company has increased its employment by 400. Employment in other iron and steel using plants have followed a similar pattern.

#### New Glasgow-Pictou

One year ago, employment conditions in the New Glasgow-Pictou area were acute. They are now classified as Moderate.

This marked improvement in the labour market situation of this area during the past 12 months is largely the result of increased activities in the railway rolling stock manufacturing industry and of the emigration of workers from the area. During the 12 months ending September 1, 1947, the number of wage and salary workers at work increased from 6,300 to 7,200, with the greatest gains taking place in iron and steel manufacturing. The Eastern Car Company in which employment was at a postwar low of just over 300 in October of 1946, had increased its staff to 800 by October 1, 1947, and had hopes of reaching 1,200 by January 1, 1948. This employment increase stemmed from orders received from the Canadian National Railways for 1,700 box-cars.

In line with the increased production program at the Eastern Car Company, local feeder plants have also augmented their staffs. During the past 12 months, for instance, the Maritime Steel and Foundries has increased its payroll from 111 to 217, and similar employment increases have occurred at the Trenton Steel Works and at Dominion Wheel and Foundries Limited.

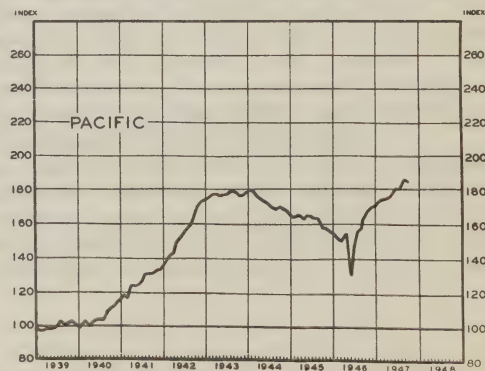
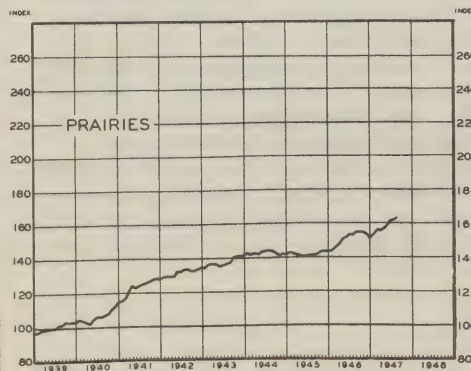
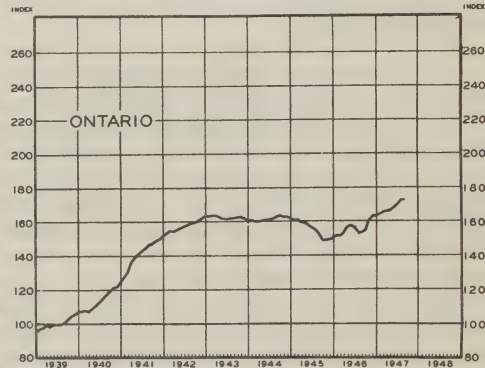
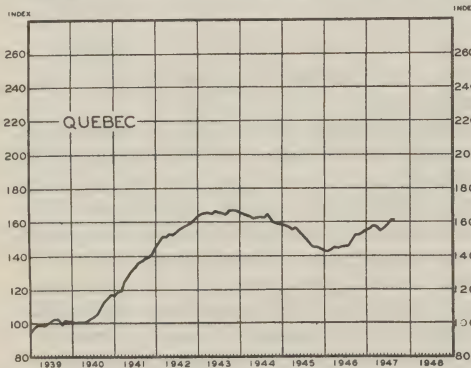
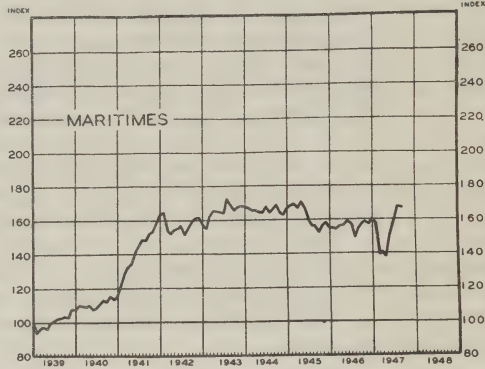
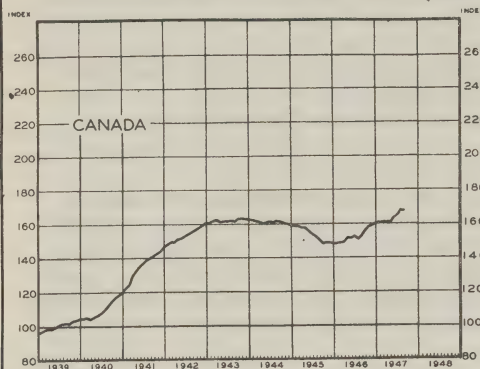
As mentioned, also responsible for the improved labour market situation is the fact that many workers have left the New Glasgow-Pictou area to obtain jobs in other centres. Between November 1, 1946, and November 1, 1947, approximately 1,000 persons were transferred from this area to jobs in other parts of the country by the National Employment Service. Undoubtedly, numerous other persons left the area independently.

# REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)



## AREA TABLES

### A Key to the Area Tables

The following area tables present statistical data on the labour market in 38 selected towns and cities. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in each area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

An "unplaced applicant" at any particular moment is a person who is registered at an office of the National Employment Service, and who either has not been placed in a job by the Employment Service, or for whom the Employment Service has had no notification of his obtaining a job on his own. It is obvious, therefore, that the number of unplaced applicants is not indicative of the total volume of unemployment in any area. In the first place, not all workers who are seeking jobs will register with the Employment Service. It is probable that most of those covered by Unemployment Insurance will do so in order to collect insurance benefits if their period of unemployment is sufficiently long. But, many workers do not come within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Act. Second, some workers who register with the Employment Service may be wanting merely to change jobs. At the time of registration, therefore, these workers would be already employed. Third, Employment Service regulations provide that when a worker registers for a job another contact need not necessarily be made with him by the Employment Service until 30 days have passed, unless, of course, a job was found for him in the meantime. If the worker obtains a job on his own during this period, the Employment Service may not be notified of this. In other words, a worker may still be counted as an unplaced applicant despite the fact that he now has a job. Finally, a worker may register for work at more than one local employment office. When this occurs, there is the possibility that the same person may be counted twice as an unplaced applicant.

These qualifications in the meaning of the term "unplaced applicant" should be clearly borne in mind by any person who makes use of the term. They are due to the fact that the principal function of the National Employment Service is to match jobs and workers, and not to collect statistics. But, they do not render such statistics useless. At present, there is no statistical information available on the total volume of unemployment by area. This being the case, the number of unplaced workers registered with a local Employment Service office is a very important fact to consider when evaluating labour market conditions in a particular area. It is in this spirit that figures on unplaced applicants are presented in the following tables.

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the total number of job opportunities insofar as employers do not report all vacancies to the Employment Service.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the Employment Service.





Item	New Glasgow & Pictou			Sydney			Saint John		
	Oct.(x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct.(x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct.(x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	126	169	408	152	174	216	57	54	92
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	50	44	47	43	138	366	511	608	655
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	730	437	447	579	546	762	900	798	1,108
3. Total jobs available during month.....	780	481	494	622	684	1,128	1,411	1,406	1,763
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	708	390	396	535	503	554	452	558	678
% casual placements.....	6.8	13.1	8.8	18.5	23.9	20.6	19.9	18.3	12.4
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	32	50	58	66	43	252	728	511	560
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month...	1,217	1,472	2,634	3,154	3,296	4,235	1,522	1,736	2,415
% female.....	16.8	12.2	8.1	15.4	13.8	12.3	10.3	6.3	6.3
% veterans.....	31.9	33.7	51.9	26.2	28.4	52.1	47.9	40.4	50.5
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.	11.4	26.8	49.1	22.6	26.3	46.4	39.1	31.7	37.7
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales....	5.9	6.4	7.3	6.2	6.7	8.6	14.4	13.0	13.8
% service & other.....	13.8	10.5	3.1	18.2	17.4	7.1	25.1	19.8	7.6
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	43.5	45.3	54.8	25.8	29.0	40.9	30.9	28.8	41.8
% unskilled.....	36.8	37.8	34.8	49.8	46.9	43.4	29.6	38.4	36.8
2. Applicants registered during month....	1,059	765	835	1,469	1,496	1,750	1,209	1,282	1,782
3. Total workers available during month..	2,276	2,237	3,469	4,623	4,792	5,985	2,731	3,018	4,197
% referred.....	46.7	27.5	26.1	29.2	23.9	23.3	23.9	31.0	25.2
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	904	1,217	2,486	2,743	3,154	3,694	1,617	1,522	2,440
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	7,200	6,100	-	18,100	17,100	-	28,400	26,400
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30.99	30.02

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed).....	21	20	47	99	115	97	19	17	27
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	1,396	676	1,193	739	257	600	15,615	16,044	20,696
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	2,350	1,473	2,076	577	832	308	12,870	17,056	13,366
3. Total jobs available during month.....	3,746	2,149	3,269	1,316	1,089	908	28,485	33,100	34,062
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	220	466	163	242	193	150	7,574	7,430	6,213
% casual placements.....	-	0.2	0.6	0.8	4.1	-	12.5	11.3	9.8
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	2,168	1,396	2,567	336	739	425	12,537	15,615	19,909
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	195	246	868	1,126	1,023	1,090	8,527	7,916	13,421
% female.....	72.8	50.4	36.2	52.8	53.4	22.8	24.5	19.8	16.1
% veterans.....	2.1	2.0	9.6	9.9	16.3	35.5	18.0	19.3	21.9
% veterans unemployed 15 days or more..	-	0.4	7.1	9.0	15.2	32.0	10.4	11.9	12.9
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	13.2	16.4	17.4	15.6	16.8	18.1	33.3	32.4	26.9
% service & other.....	24.5	10.7	15.7	13.2	11.9	7.1	21.3	19.7	10.2
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	41.5	22.9	27.4	32.7	30.6	41.9	23.7	23.2	22.3
% unskilled.....	20.8	50.0	39.5	38.5	40.7	32.9	21.7	24.7	40.6
2. Applicants registered during month.....	353	254	570	791	726	564	14,528	12,982	17,810
3. Total workers available during month..	548	500	1,438	1,917	1,749	1,554	23,055	20,898	31,231
% referred.....	54.2	41.2	17.9	22.7	24.1	18.9	53.3	58.7	38.6
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	204	195	327	970	1,126	1,032	9,283	8,527	12,935
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	10,000	7,000	-	7,800	10,600	-	500,300	481,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35.34	32.84

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)....	68	60	114	53	45	85	10	8	13
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled Vacancies, first of month...	1,954	2,123	2,155	56	62	296	381	383	378
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	2,043	2,825	2,221	294	279	150	603	690	814
3. Total jobs available during month....	3,997	4,948	4,376	350	341	446	984	1,073	1,192
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	1,121	1,570	1,138	254	206	224	390	350	518
% casual placements.....	0.9	0.3	0.1	-	-	-	6.9	11.7	6.6
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	1,341	1,954	1,897	43	56	185	288	381	326
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month...	4,616	4,720	7,855	620	553	887	165	144	264
% Female.....	56.8	48.3	39.2	61.3	64.0	41.3	43.6	31.9	26.1
% Veterans.....	12.1	9.4	20.2	3.2	2.0	12.7	12.7	21.5	22.3
% Veterans unplaced 15 days or more	7.3	7.0	14.4	1.8	1.8	11.8	1.8	6.3	15.5
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & Sales...	19.4	20.1	19.6	8.7	9.5	4.6	25.8	17.4	25.1
% service & other.....	16.1	12.8	9.0	9.6	9.1	2.5	21.5	21.4	8.7
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	41.9	39.3	36.9	49.6	41.7	29.8	22.6	20.4	19.0
% unskilled.....	22.6	27.8	34.5	32.1	39.7	63.1	30.1	40.8	47.2
2. Applicants registered during month...	3,625	4,242	4,574	547	519	485	596	554	714
3. Total workers available during month...	8,241	8,962	12,429	1,167	1,072	1,372	761	698	978
% referred.....	30.5	42.3	17.0	29.4	29.3	18.8	81.1	81.7	71.7
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month....	5,237	4,616	7,733	738	620	881	189	165	259
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	76,600	67,700	-	13,900	10,400	-	19,800	19,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings	-	32.12	28.46	-	-	-	-	30.30	28.53
X Figures subject to revision.									

Item	Sorel			Three Rivers			Valleyfield		
	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	27	30	63	36	54	85	70	67	109
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	112	188	140	248	190	265	174	227	384
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	208	292	368	418	590	712	186	335	866
3. Total jobs available during month.....	320	480	508	666	780	977	360	562	1,250
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	139	196	114	213	337	281	132	186	540
% casual placements.....	-	-	-	7.5	0.6	-	-	-	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	79	112	99	207	248	169	97	174	357
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	298	342	560	2,116	3,462	3,115	423	477	791
% female.....	14.4	13.7	15.7	23.7	13.6	23.4	53.2	47.4	28.6
% veterans.....	3.4	5.8	8.9	9.5	8.2	15.2	6.6	5.5	11.1
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	2.3	4.7	7.5	6.9	7.0	11.9	4.5	4.8	8.3
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	16.5	13.6	9.8	9.6	7.1	10.3	9.1	6.8	11.3
% service & other.....	9.0	9.8	3.4	8.3	3.9	5.8	15.2	13.9	8.3
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	49.4	54.2	65.0	37.5	31.1	30.3	29.8	30.7	37.4
% unskilled.....	25.1	22.4	21.8	44.6	57.9	53.6	45.9	48.6	43.0
2. Applicants registered during month.....	284	310	366	739	752	921	335	354	722
3. Total workers available during month.....	582	652	926	2,855	4,214	4,036	758	831	1,513
% referred.....	32.0	39.7	18.1	24.3	17.0	12.2	24.4	32.4	46.0
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	271	298	507	1,403	2,116	2,927	438	423	646
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	-	10,100	8,000	-	39,400	34,300	-	6,300	5,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	36.54	31.99	-	-	-

x Figures subject to revision

Item	Brantford			Ft. William & Pt. Arthur			Hamilton		
	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	21	18	22	21	20	71	28	25	81
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled Vacancies, first of month.....	807	1,033	706	4,503	4,192	8,500	4,255	4,460	1,640
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	723	773	810	4,185	3,633	5,338	2,965	4,089	3,102
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,530	1,806	1,516	8,688	7,825	13,838	7,220	8,549	4,742
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	418	378	330	1,159	715	1,414	1,921	2,119	1,563
% casual placements.....	7.9	11.1	7.3	1.1	-	0.4	16.6	17.5	17.7
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	664	807	507	4,632	4,503	7,138	2,915	4,255	1,607
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	314	228	326	560	616	1,740	2,177	1,552	5,207
% female.....	33.8	46.5	36.5	56.1	54.1	42.1	28.6	33.3	22.4
% veterans.....	25.5	28.9	29.8	14.5	19.6	20.9	23.7	35.4	34.0
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more..	15.3	15.4	15.0	5.5	4.2	9.5	10.2	18.4	19.9
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	12.5	12.3	16.6	13.8	13.8	8.6	15.5	18.5	13.4
% service & other.....	10.1	14.8	10.1	11.8	12.7	9.6	15.6	14.0	4.6
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	18.8	21.3	24.1	31.3	27.9	32.9	26.8	27.4	48.1
% unskilled.....	58.6	51.6	49.2	43.1	45.6	48.9	42.1	40.1	33.9
2. Applicants registered during month.....	815	671	606	1,315	1,151	1,957	4,095	4,106	4,456
3. Total workers available during month...	1,129	899	932	1,875	1,767	3,697	6,272	5,658	9,663
% referred.....	53.9	62.8	45.1	58.8	51.3	41.5	71.3	77.0	37.2
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	372	314	363	564	560	1,678	2,465	2,177	5,531
Employment:									
1. wage and salary workers, first of month	-	17,900	16,700	-	27,500	23,500	-	87,900	68,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	40.35	36.73	-	37.81	32.59

X Figures subject to revision.





Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	Oct.(x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct.(x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct.(x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)....	18	13	19	67	66	104	53	52	52
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month....	263	703	576	709	468	527	1,391	1,856	1,783
2. Vacancies notified during month....	516	600	821	826	1,154	1,045	1,892	2,220	2,090
3. Total jobs available during month....	779	1,305	1,397	1,535	1,622	1,572	3,283	4,076	3,873
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	356	365	497	654	694	704	922	1,049	973
% casual placements.....	1.7	2.2	0.2	2.8	1.6	0.1	13.6	33.6	0.1
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	174	263	270	369	709	453	963	1,391	1,424
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month....	247	316	242	1,241	1,381	3,122	3,237	3,543	3,196
% female.....	34.4	36.7	22.3	49.2	50.0	30.5	57.3	55.0	42.2
% veterans.....	23.9	10.8	34.7	19.6	15.7	29.9	20.3	18.0	28.8
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.	13.0	5.1	12.8	8.3	6.9	14.1	14.4	12.8	10.6
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales....	13.6	9.5	20.7	9.1	5.9	5.0	35.3	34.7	31.7
% service & other.....	21.6	22.0	17.6	4.6	6.1	2.6	12.4	10.7	8.0
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	29.6	26.0	26.6	26.0	19.3	36.4	21.2	22.6	20.2
% unskilled.....	35.2	42.5	35.1	60.3	68.7	56.0	31.1	32.0	40.1
2. Applicants registered during month....	626	575	730	1,211	1,135	1,370	2,697	2,618	2,934
3. Total workers available during month...	873	891	972	2,452	2,516	4,492	5,934	6,161	6,130
% referred.....	65.4	78.7	76.9	39.9	47.1	23.3	29.1	33.1	35.1
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	339	247	346	1,261	1,241	1,796	3,296	3,237	3,201
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	19,000	18,000	-	18,900	17,200	-	62,400	61,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.23	29.30

x Figures subject to revision

Item	Peterborough			St. Catharines			Sault Ste. Marie		
	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	20	16	17	28	23	42	15	14	121
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled Vacancies, first of month.....	219	293	382	766	672	1,011	962	1,152	2,390
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	486	558	835	989	1,294	1,173	707	1,045	403
3. Total jobs available during month.....	705	851	1,217	1,755	1,966	2,184	1,669	2,197	2,793
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	419	470	555	563	677	686	342	359	260
% casual placements.....	-	-	-	3.0	11.2	6.9	-	-	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	164	219	438	422	766	257	1,155	962	2,238
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month....	396	327	484	702	706	1,108	251	295	1,012
% female.....	8.3	11.9	7.4	31.3	38.8	45.3	83.3	85.4	38.6
% veterans.....	37.6	45.9	45.2	30.9	27.8	25.1	6.0	3.4	13.2
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.	18.7	24.5	26.0	6.4	11.6	12.1	4.8	2.0	10.0
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	7.2	8.0	11.6	14.9	10.6	14.2	9.5	13.9	12.9
% service & other.....	0.8	1.7	1.6	8.1	7.4	7.1	42.9	32.6	2.7
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	19.0	20.5	23.9	39.0	30.8	39.3	14.3	25.6	53.5
% unskilled.....	73.0	69.8	62.9	38.0	51.2	39.4	33.3	27.9	30.9
2. Applicants registered during month....	894	895	757	1,393	1,066	1,417	448	506	870
3. Total workers available during month....	1,290	1,222	1,241	2,095	1,772	2,525	699	801	1,882
% referred.....	68.3	76.8	73.2	48.9	63.7	46.1	58.9	57.7	15.0
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	514	396	392	888	702	1,235	258	251	1,061
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	25,300	23,500	-	31,200	29,200	-	17,700	8,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

X Figures subject to revision.



Item	Sudbury			Toronto			Welland		
	Oct.(x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct.(x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct.(x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)..... Jobs:	19	18	32	15	13	24	46	36	101
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	2,095	2,347	2,589	21,219	20,121	20,024	370	478	392
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,677	1,517	4,305	19,454	20,825	26,114	552	526	982
3. Total jobs available during month.....	3,772	3,864	6,894	40,673	40,946	46,138	922	1,004	1,374
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	1,193	984	1,186	8,487	8,458	7,315	226	235	458
% casual placements.....	5.8	6.6	5.2	18.1	21.4	12.6	1.3	3.0	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	1,628	2,095	3,055	18,327	21,219	20,054	327	370	460
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month....	619	531	1,022	5,420	4,775	9,781	350	244	840
% female.....	34.7	34.3	39.0	19.4	14.9	10.9	55.4	62.3	51.0
% veterans.....	16.0	24.7	22.5	34.6	37.8	45.8	8.6	3.3	18.5
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.	6.8	6.8	8.8	17.6	18.0	26.4	2.9	1.6	11.5
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales.....	7.4	9.4	9.1	34.6	30.9	34.6	7.7	2.2	9.8
% service & other.....	10.4	9.5	6.1	16.7	16.3	7.6	7.1	9.9	6.5
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	38.4	31.8	41.9	27.4	26.6	25.0	20.5	26.4	34.0
% unskilled.....	43.8	49.3	42.9	21.3	26.2	32.8	64.7	61.5	49.7
2. Applicants registered during month.....	1,137	1,042	1,453	13,601	13,211	13,553	574	538	973
3. Total workers available during month....	1,756	1,573	2,475	19,021	17,986	23,334	924	782	1,813
% referred.....	57.6	59.9	57.6	72.3	73.3	55.0	56.3	65.0	45.1
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	652	619	923	6,137	5,420	9,290	441	350	836
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	34,000	29,000	-	407,600	380,700	-	9,600	8,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	37.47	33.41	-	-	-

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed).....	53	53	153	37	32	52	20	15	28
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	399	529	317	4,345	4,330	5,105	524	715	1,048
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,362	2,017	1,253	6,184	7,169	7,378	1,594	1,363	2,086
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,761	2,546	1,570	10,529	11,499	12,483	2,118	2,078	3,134
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	1,057	1,408	918	3,901	4,293	4,224	1,137	929	1,429
% casual placements.....	36.1	30.7	16.9	35.9	36.6	34.9	32.5	42.8	30.7
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	241	399	232	4,279	4,545	3,734	434	524	565
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month...	3,024	2,662	12,585	4,531	5,033	6,836	492	425	828
% female.....	57.0	54.2	14.0	33.8	37.8	21.8	34.3	39.3	30.1
% veterans.....	17.2	17.6	16.0	28.6	25.4	39.4	51.8	30.8	36.5
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.	10.3	10.6	13.2	13.3	12.6	25.7	46.7	25.9	32.0
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales....	15.6	16.2	3.8	24.4	25.9	24.1	33.8	28.3	17.3
% service & other.....	14.6	13.9	2.0	17.1	12.0	10.5	13.3	12.8	13.5
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	41.5	39.7	26.3	26.1	28.3	24.3	20.1	17.8	21.4
% unskilled.....	28.3	30.2	67.9	32.4	33.8	41.1	32.8	41.1	47.8
2. Applicants registered during month.....	2,836	2,934	3,106	8,208	7,513	8,661	2,183	1,568	2,557
3. Total workers available during month...	5,860	5,596	15,691	12,739	12,546	15,497	2,675	1,993	3,385
% referred.....	32.5	46.8	10.5	53.8	53.4	47.5	80.4	83.3	71.2
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	3,059	3,024	7,328	5,329	4,531	7,298	683	492	925
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	57,600	47,800	-	142,500	140,500	-	33,900	33,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	43.44	35.86	-	33.63	30.77	-	32.59	29.90

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	Oct. 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)....	28	23	33	36	34	56	25	22	35
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month....	665	628	737	987	1,188	1,286	1,338	1,449	2,096
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,170	1,177	1,073	2,654	3,099	3,446	3,502	3,438	4,944
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,835	1,805	1,810	3,641	4,287	4,732	4,840	4,887	7,040
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	622	570	581	1,991	2,225	2,546	2,369	2,382	2,844
% casual placements.....	24.6	28.9	28.4	17.7	17.4	14.7	18.7	21.8	20.5
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	426	665	563	919	987	985	1,485	1,338	2,299
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month....	1,102	1,149	967	1,799	1,428	2,421	1,669	1,604	2,228
% females.....	46.0	41.2	41.1	32.4	31.8	23.4	35.0	27.8	29.1
% veterans.....	29.3	23.8	32.2	36.2	41.3	46.9	29.1	27.7	34.7
% veterans unemployed 15 days or more.	16.6	13.1	16.8	22.3	24.2	30.8	11.7	12.5	11.0
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales....	19.2	17.5	22.0	25.5	27.2	20.3	25.9	23.6	20.7
% service & other.....	27.4	27.1	9.1	35.1	33.3	9.7	25.2	23.1	19.1
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	25.7	24.8	24.3	28.9	29.2	28.4	25.7	28.7	25.8
% unskilled.....	27.7	30.6	44.6	10.5	10.3	41.6	23.2	24.6	34.4
2. Applicants registered during month....	1,721	1,434	1,935	3,100	3,438	4,068	4,237	4,049	5,014
3. Total workers available during month..	2,823	2,583	2,902	4,899	4,866	6,489	5,906	5,653	7,242
% referred.....	51.2	46.5	42.5	57.5	66.5	53.3	63.4	68.1	58.2
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	1,356	1,102	1,479	1,948	1,799	2,747	1,940	1,669	2,367
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	47,900	44,700	-	53,600	49,300	-	76,700	67,700
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	33.12	30.11	-	35.22	32.54	-	32.89	31.06

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Trail			Vancouver			Victoria		
	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946	Oct. (x) 1947	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)....	13	16	39	63	56	74	36	32	41
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month....	314	194	294	3,200	4,299	6,072	555	754	1,338
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	202	378	324	6,670	9,663	10,641	785	1,127	1,537
3. Total jobs available during month.....	516	572	618	9,870	13,962	16,713	1,340	1,881	2,875
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	307	229	306	4,482	5,591	5,414	585	713	1,117
% casual placements.....	-	0.4	-	16.0	18.7	19.4	17.1	20.1	9.9
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	64	314	203	1,901	3,200	3,748	334	555	603
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month....	161	167	278	11,793	10,487	14,840	1,484	1,560	1,811
% female.....	43.5	50.3	59.0	26.3	24.0	18.2	19.9	15.1	19.4
% veterans.....	9.9	29.9	24.8	39.0	37.3	34.4	35.2	33.5	37.3
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.	4.3	2.4	15.1	25.2	24.9	24.2	25.1	23.0	24.2
Occupational distribution, males:									
% professional, clerical & sales....	7.7	3.6	8.8	20.4	19.7	19.3	16.8	13.7	20.5
% service & other.....	8.8	12.0	7.0	14.0	15.3	8.7	11.3	9.9	8.5
% skilled & semi-skilled.....	22.0	38.6	23.7	28.7	25.5	36.5	28.5	23.3	30.5
% unskilled.....	61.5	45.8	60.5	36.9	39.5	35.5	43.4	53.1	40.5
2. Applicants registered during month....	323	288	402	14,498	13,835	14,577	1,580	1,420	1,911
3. Total workers available during month....	484	455	680	26,291	24,322	29,417	3,064	2,980	3,722
% referred.....	59.1	55.6	50.4	29.1	39.5	31.6	34.1	37.9	37.5
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	136	161	354	13,448	11,773	13,923	1,678	1,484	1,900
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	10,100	9,000	-	212,400	188,000	-	47,100	45,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	36.80	34.34	-	35.76	31.23

x Figures subject to revision.







A N A D I A N

# LABOUR MARKET

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR,  
RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH

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1947 in Review

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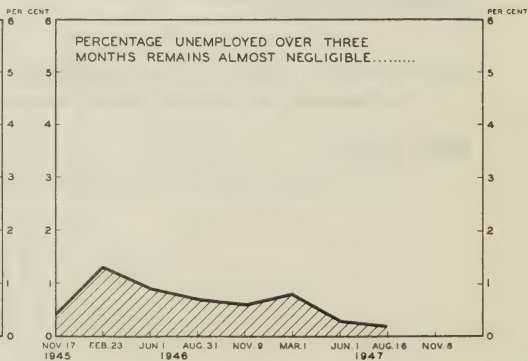
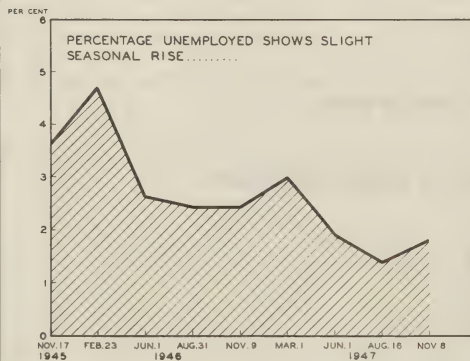
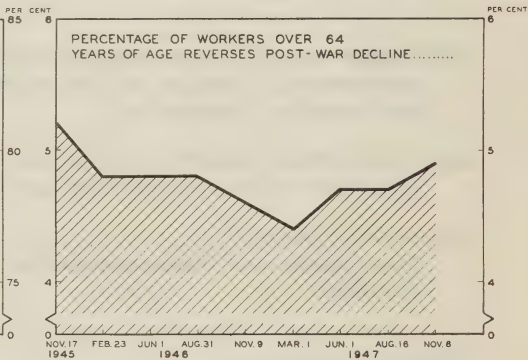
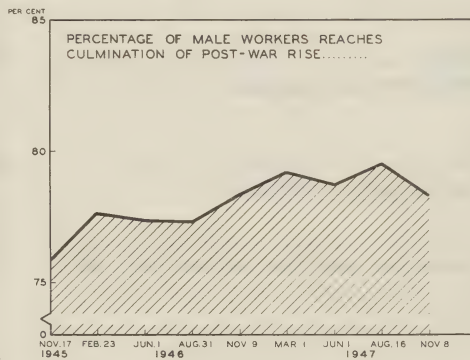
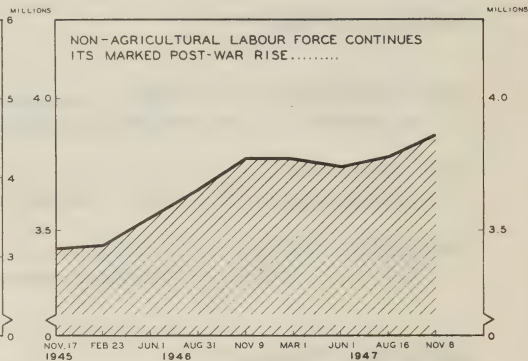
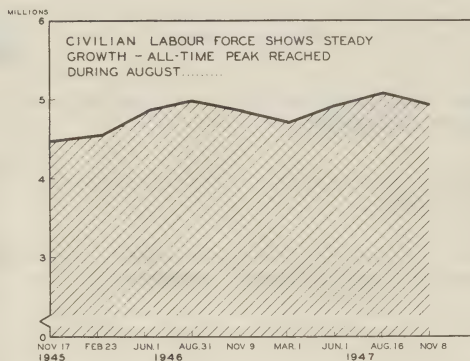
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# THE LABOUR FORCE.....



# THE LABOUR MARKET IN BRIEF

At present, the usual seasonal slackness is evident in the labour market. Unskilled workers have been particularly affected. Many farm workers, as well as farmers themselves, are looking for winter jobs. The relatively small harvest this year resulted in an early and large influx of workers from the Prairie Provinces & British Columbia. This influx now has practically ended, however. The Dollar Saving Plan dampened many employers demand for labour, particularly in manufacturing industries. Nevertheless, once temporary difficulties are solved, the outlook is promising and optimism prevails amongst business men in general.

As the year 1947 drew to a close, employment prospects for most Canadian workers continued to be favourable. In December, however, the Canadian labour market was highlighted by a marked "loosening" of employment conditions for unskilled workers. By the end of the year, it had also become apparent that the Dollar Saving Program was having some effect on the labour market. Employers were showing a marked hesitation in taking on additional staff. This uncertainty, however, had not developed to the point where any significant layoffs were occurring.

A sharp increase in the number of unskilled workers without jobs has been evident for some weeks. There are several explanations of this development.

Farm crops in Canada this year were substantially below last year's near record levels. This year, too, farmers were marketing a large portion of their livestock due to the shortage of feed grains which resulted from the poor crops. This reduced the amount of work involved in the care of the stock which remained on the farms. As a result, farm labourers found that their agricultural jobs were ended from four to six weeks earlier this year than was the case in 1946. In addition, the smaller crops resulted in a lower cash income to the farmer himself. Many farmers, consequently, were looking for winter work in order to supplement their incomes.

Most farm workers usually turn to the logging camps in search of winter jobs. Last year, the average worker in the logging industry only stayed on the job about 40 days, just long enough to earn some extra money to help with winter expenses. During the entire logging season, therefore, one job would provide work for about three men. Since last year, however, about 3,500 Displaced Persons have been added to the staffs of Canadian logging companies. These men will be occupying their jobs throughout the whole of the forthcoming winter. As a result, each one of them will account for about three of last year's workers. There will not, therefore, be as many temporary jobs available in logging camps this year.

An additional factor in the situation has already been mentioned. The Dollar Saving Program has, temporarily at least, resulted in a marked falling-off in the demand for labour.

The net result of all these factors is that, on the side of supply, more workers are seeking winter jobs, and on the side of demand, fewer temporary openings are available. All of these factors have tended to affect the unskilled workers to much the greatest extent.

This "loosening" of labour market conditions has had the additional result of markedly reducing the volume of labour turnover.

At the time of writing, however, employment prospects for 1948 continue to be basically favourable. There does not seem much likelihood of any diminution during 1948 of the general shortage of labour which existed throughout most of 1947.

Total employment in Canada continues to maintain its record level. At November 8, 1947, 4,847,000 persons were employed while only 87,000 workers were unemployed. Although employment has dropped by about 160,000 since mid-August, it is at a record level for this time of the year.

The seasonal decline in employment between August and November of this year was entirely confined to agriculture. Non-agricultural employment continued to increase, reaching 3,779,000 at November 8, compared with 3,707,000 in mid-August. This marked a new all-time high in the number of non-farm jobs. Unemployment, at 87,000 amounted to only 1.8 per cent of the labour force.

Payments to labour, in the form of wages, salaries, and supplementary labour income continue to rise. It is now fairly evident that total labour income during 1947 will be about 19 per cent higher than in 1946. The construction and logging industries have benefited the most by this increase.

The gains in labour income this year have been the product of both high employment and greater earnings. During 1947, however, the cost of living has increased even more than labour income. As a result, the buying power of the Canadian dollar has decreased insofar as domestic consumer goods and services are concerned.

In line with the sharp rise in the volume of unplaced applicants registered at Employment Service offices which occurred during November, ordinary live claims rose markedly to number 59,555 at November 30, 1947. The increase during the month was about 17,000. Over the same period, unplaced applicants increased by about 23,000. Ordinary live claims totalled 63,760 at November 30, 1946.

It is likely that additional fairly sharp rises will occur in live claims during December and January. Last winter, the number of live claims reached a peak of 110,000 at the end of February. This winter, it does not seem likely that this peak will be exceeded by much, if at all.

During October, rises in the average weekly earnings of wage earners in manufacturing industries kept pace with the increased cost of living. Real weekly earnings, consequently, were at the same level at November 1 as they were one month earlier. At November 1, 1947, the index of average real weekly earnings for manufacturing workers was 103.5 (av. 1946 = 100). It is now apparent that real earnings will average about 4 per cent higher in 1947 than in 1946.



Table IV--Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note: All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Indicators	Oct. 1939	Oct. 1941	Oct. 1942	Oct. 1943	Oct. 1944	Oct. 1945	Oct. 1946	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1947
Employment (a) -									
Index (av. 1926 - 100).....	121.7	163.6	178.5	184.5	180.6	167.0	176.7	191.5	192.8
(June 1, 1941 - 100).. <td>-</td> <td>108.2</td> <td>118.1</td> <td>122.0</td> <td>119.7</td> <td>110.7</td> <td>117.1</td> <td>126.9</td> <td>127.8</td>	-	108.2	118.1	122.0	119.7	110.7	117.1	126.9	127.8
Number (thousands).....	1,307	1,756	1,916	1,981	1,939	1,793	1,895	2,072	2,091
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	440	452	460
Unemployment (b) -									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	65	62	129	142	86	87
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	33	33	96	111	60	59
Female(thousands).....	-	-	-	32	29	33	31	26	28
Live Claims -									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	6	48	58	37	37
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	4	33	41	24	24
Female(thousands).....	-	-	-	-	2	15	17	13	13
Earnings (a) -									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941 - 100).. <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>136.8</td> <td>149.4</td> <td>149.9</td> <td>137.7</td> <td>150.1</td> <td>150.1</td> <td>184.2</td>	-	-	136.8	149.4	149.9	137.7	150.1	150.1	184.2
Per capita weekly earnings.. <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>29.55</td> <td>31.52</td> <td>32.36</td> <td>32.16</td> <td>33.25</td> <td>36.79</td> <td>37.36</td>	-	-	29.55	31.52	32.36	32.16	33.25	36.79	37.36
Cost of Living (c) -									
(Av. 1935 - 39 - 100).....	-	115.5	117.8	119.3	118.6	119.7	126.8	139.4	142.2
Man-hours and hourly earnings (a) -									
Average hours per week.....	-	-	-	-	-	44.7	42.8	42.3	43.0
Average hourly earnings.....	-	-	-	-	-	67.8	71.4	82.2	83.4
Strikes and lockouts (b) -									
Number.....	27	23	26	38	14	18	27	41	46
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	6	6	6	6	4	26	33	20	28
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	34	20	27	26	7	419	392	277	428
Industrial Production (d) -									
(Av. 1935 - 39 - 100).....	117.8	167.0	189.6	197.1	193.7	159.0	157.6	174.9	178.0

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

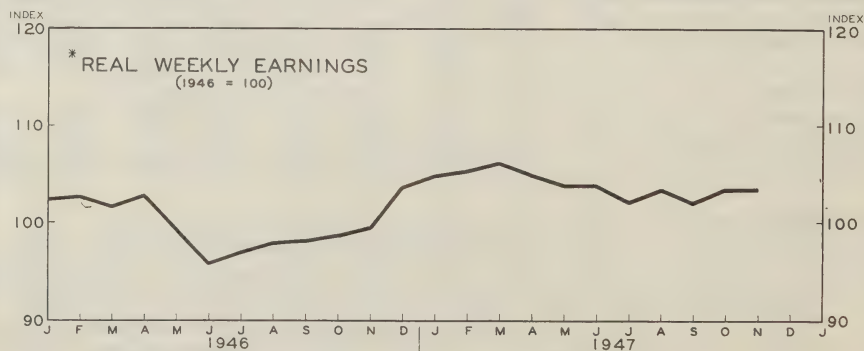
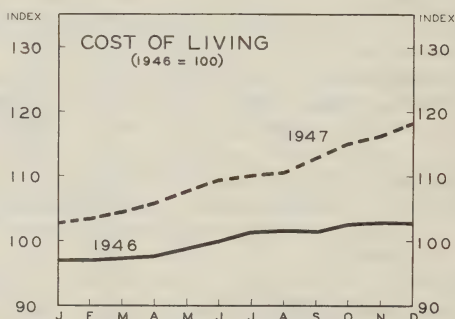
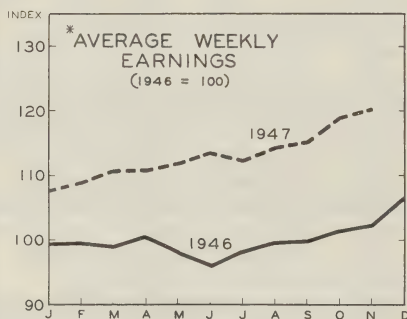
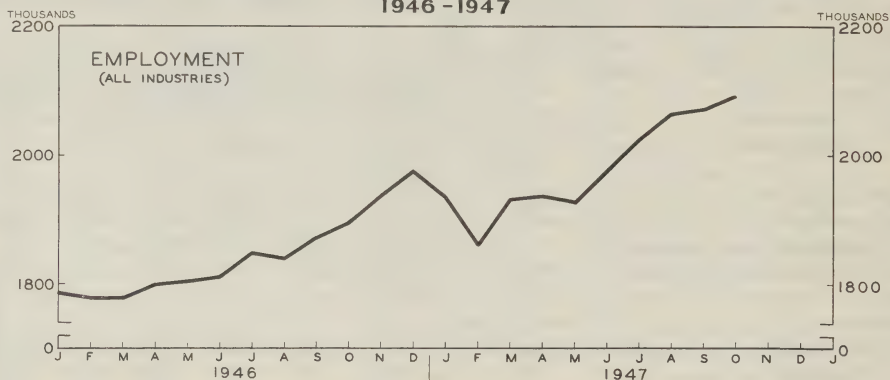
(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

# TRENDS IN EMPLOYMENT AND REAL WEEKLY EARNINGS

1946-1947



# 1947 IN REVIEW

The year 1947 has seen all previous levels of employment surpassed, and the lowest volume of peacetime unemployment on record. An acute labour shortage prevailed throughout the months of seasonal activity and industrial needs were met only through movement of workers within the labour force and selective immigration. Foreign and domestic demand sustained capacity production and encouraged expansion. But towards the end of the year, the effectiveness of foreign demand was threatened by the world-wide shortage of American dollars; many of our customers were forced to adopt import restrictions to conserve dollars. Canada's dollar-saving program involved some temporary difficulties, but optimism prevails amongst business men in general--they do not foresee any recession in 1948, according to a recent survey.

During 1947 the Canadian economy operated in high gear. The frictions of the previous year were mainly absent. Labour-management negotiations centred about the straightforward issue of the rising cost of living and major strife did not materialize except in the coal and meat-packing industries. The supply situation had improved progressively throughout the year, and some types of steel were the only persistent bottlenecks.

The incentives to production were still strongly effective. Domestic demand remained high, although its pattern had shifted to durables as deferred needs for non-durables became satisfied. Purchasing power remained strong: labour income rose some 18 per cent above the 1946 level, but the cost-of-living was up 15 per cent and general prices, 28 per cent.

Foreign demand was basically sound but towards the end of the year threatened to deteriorate to some degree, as the financial mechanism of world trade showed signs of a breakdown. Many countries were forced to adopt import restrictions to conserve their dwindling supplies of American dollars.

Canada's dollar-saving program began in November but its impact on imports was not expected to become apparent until the first quarter in 1948. Imports for the first ten months of the year attained \$2,150.7 million, and exports \$2,255.6 million--but, since 77 per cent of the imports represented purchases from the United States, and from month to month the unfavourable balance with that country had been increasing, the drain on our American dollars necessitated government action.

## Employment Expansion

All previous levels of employment were surpassed in 1947. Bottlenecks disappeared for most industries and rapid expansion of production boosted employment to a level slightly in excess of 5 million at the height



of seasonal activity in the summer. Towards the end of the year employment was 112,000 above last year's level, and unemployment 28,000 less.

To compare the level of 1947 employment by industry with 1946, July 1 figures are used since this date avoids comparison with the strike period and its aftermath.

Manufacturing employment—1,054,800 in July 1947—showed a steady recovery from the reconversion period—to 7 per cent above the 1946 level, and 80 per cent higher than in 1939. The durable goods sector was chiefly responsible for the gain, it had advanced 8 per cent over 1946. Naturally, reconversion problems had been more difficult for this group, since re-tooling and re-organization of production were involved as well as the problem of concurrent reconversion for all the supplier industries. The durable goods group showed a 113 per cent growth over 1939, but was 26 per cent below its wartime peak in 1943.

Non-durable goods—clothing, textiles, etc.—did not face similar reconversion difficulties. The problem for this group was to recover the labour it had lost to heavy war industries. Demobilization and the shifting of women workers out of heavy industry helped non-durables somewhat—by 1947, employment was 6 per cent higher than in 1946, equal to the 1943 level, and 59 per cent above 1939.

The mining industry, starved for labour during the war, made its greatest employment gains during the demobilization period. Figures for July 1947, although depressed by the fact that the coal strike had just ended and the industry not fully operative, were 14 per cent above 1945 and only 5 per cent above 1946, indicating greatest growth immediately after the war. Many mines are still short of workers, especially skilled miners, but the arrival of Displaced Persons from Europe is relieving the scarcity somewhat.

Construction employment mushroomed after the war and has since expanded steadily as the supply situation improved. At July 1947, there were 213,500 workers in construction—46 per cent more than in 1945 and 16 per cent more than in 1946.

Logging made the greatest gain of all the industrial groups during 1947, being 23 per cent higher than in 1946. Higher wages were attracting more workers. The great expansion in this industry since 1939 is shown by the 154 per cent increase since then.

Both services and trade followed approximately the same trend, with 8 per cent advances over 1946 figures. The displacement of women with the collapse of war industry helped to relieve the acute labour shortage in trade and service, since many such workers were channelled in their direction.

Regionally, the relative growth of employment was greatest, surprisingly enough, in British Columbia—where a 23 per cent gain was registered over 1946. However, logging, mining and the other seasonal industries which so heavily weight the economy of this region, were all operating energetically at this period (July), which may influence the relative position. Ontario and Quebec record identical advances of 9 per cent, reflecting major industrial expansion in manufacturing and construction.

## Labour Supply

As employment expanded, the supply of labour dwindled correspondingly—to an inadequate 73,000 in the summer, only 1.4 per cent of the labour force. Industries, especially mining, were extremely short of workers. The shortages were most acute in the Central Regions; at the extremities, the Maritimes and British Columbia, labour surpluses existed—for the former, a chronic condition, for the latter, chiefly a seasonal one augmented by an influx of Prairie persons. Steps were taken to move unemployed workers from the depressed areas of the Maritimes into Ontario and Quebec, and about 2,600 persons were transferred to jobs in this way.

Students moved into the labour force during the summer and formed a welcome source of labour for the construction, mining, agriculture and service industries; many housewives also took jobs in service and in food processing.

## Immigration

The transference of workers within Canada gave only temporary relief to the chronic scarcity experienced by the above industries; immigration schemes met with widespread approval and support. Government representatives in Europe combed Displaced Persons Camps for suitable workers, while in Britain, immigrants were recruited both by industrial and government agents. Altogether, about 57,000 persons came to this country from Europe during the year.

## Labour Relations

Collective bargaining centred around the solid straight-forward issue of the rising cost of living and only two major work stoppages occurred to block production, in marked contrast to last year's strike activity. Repercussions of the coal strike in the Maritimes, were localized on the whole; only the meat-packing strike was nation-wide in its effect. In the first eleven months of the year, 2,400,000 man-working days were lost through strikes as against 4,500,000 days in the same 1946 period. Of this 1947 time loss, 75 per cent was due to the coal and meat-packing strikes alone—only 600,000 man-days were lost through all other strikes.

If living costs continue to rise, a further round of wage increases can be expected in 1948. In the unlikely event of a price recession, however, negotiations would instead centre about the "fringe" issues, such as welfare and pensions plans.

## Wages

Wage trends during the year showed a steady upward movement in most industries. The 1947 round of wage negotiations was peaceful on the whole. The level of wages rose by about 10 to 18 per cent. (October figures, the latest available, are used in comparison with October 1946).

For manufacturing, hourly earnings rose from 71.4¢ in 1946 to 83.4¢ in 1947—a 17 per cent gain; this was an almost absolute advance since hours increased only from 42.9 to 43.0. The durable goods sector, however, was chiefly responsible for the total increase. It was in these industries that key wage negotiations were most concentrated. Hourly earnings jumped from 77.8¢ to 90.4¢ while hours advanced only slightly from 42.8 to 43.5. Non-durables marked a wage increase from 65.7¢ to 76.3¢ and hours declined slightly.



The effect of the coal strike and labour-management negotiations in other mining fields on mining wages is evident by a comparison of 1947 and 1946 figures--101.2¢ as against 88.3¢, a 15 per cent rise. Hourly wages in construction rose from 85.3¢ to 94.8¢—some 11 per cent; hours worked did not change greatly.

### Prices

The upward movement of wages had followed in the wake of substantial price increases. Price decontrol ended on almost all items during 1947, and a gain of 28 per cent occurred in wholesale prices (December 1, 1946 to December 1, 1947). The index is still moving upward, and the effect of the Dollar Saving Program coupled with the proposed plan to purchase goods in this country under the European Recovery Plan will be to create even greater upward pressure on prices in 1948. Food costs are expected to shoot still higher in January, as a result of the new British contract prices for bacon, beef, eggs and ham.

Prices of consumer goods rose 26 per cent during the year (Dec. 1-Dec. 1). Food prices were the chief factor in this rise, although removal of controls on motor vehicles, household equipment and clothing also contributed substantially. Producers goods prices reflected the heavy demand for these products as a result of industrial expansion, and marked a 32 per cent advance. Building materials, in better supply but still outdistanced by demand, registered a price gain of 33 per cent. Comparison with 1946 price gains appears below.

<u>Prices</u>	<u>Percentage Rise During</u>	
	<u>1947<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>1946</u>
General Wholesale	28	9
Consumer Goods	26	6
Producers Goods	32	9
Building Materials	33	16

The cost of living rose correspondingly under this price pressure. By the end of the year, the index stood at 146.0 (the all-time high was 150.6 for July 1920). The December 1 index of 146.0 represents an increase of 15 per cent in the cost of living for the 12-month period since December 1, 1946. Food costs bulked larger and larger in the consumer's budget by reason of the 22 per cent increase in food prices. Clothing was the next most costly item with a 21 per cent gain.

### "Real" Wages

The results of the wage increases negotiated during 1946 had not become fully evident until the new year, when production became more stabilized. By October, after the 1947 negotiations, weekly wages in manufacturing had risen to \$35.86 from \$32.54 at January. However, rising prices were whittling away the value of such wage increases. "Real" wages (wages adjusted by the cost of living index) increased until March 1947 when price decontrol on

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(1) Twelve month period ending December 1, 1947.



a large number of items boosted the cost of living and caused a corresponding drop in "real" wages. This situation formed the basis of the 1947 round of labour-management negotiations. By autumn, the wage increases gained had overcome to some extent the rising cost of living and at October the index of "real" wages had again turned slightly upward, advancing to 103.5 (av. 1946 = 100)—the March 1947 level was 106.1, the October 1945 level, 103.6. In all likelihood "real" wages turned down in the closing months of the year, when further sharp gains in the cost of living occurred.

Labour income for three-quarters of 1947 amounted to \$4,400 million—an 18 per cent increase over the similar 1946 period. The expansion in employment during 1947 accounts partly for the gain in labour income. However, the cost of living had risen 15 per cent over the previous year (December 1, 1947, compared to December 1, 1946). It would appear, therefore, that there was some gain in the average worker's real income during the year.

### Production

As the supply situation eased, production expanded and the spasmodic lay-offs characteristic of 1946 disappeared. Consumer durable goods—cars, refrigerators, radios—were in greatest demand, but producers goods such as machinery, agricultural implements, and building materials also were supplying an eager market and plants were operating at capacity. The latter group, moreover, is the indicator of industrial expansion since expansion there reflects the confidence of businessmen in the future.

In most cases, industrial production in the first nine months of 1947 easily surpassed that for the whole of 1946, an average gain of 12 per cent is indicated, and was well above the 1939 level. A few items illustrate this point.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Number of Units Produced</u>		
	<u>1939</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>
Passenger cars	108,000	92,000	119,000
Trucks	47,000	80,000	188,000
Refrigerators	52,000	57,000	71,000
Radios	349,000	585,000	651,000

The great expenditure for new plant and equipment during the year presaged a greater productive capacity. According to a mid-year survey of business investment plans, industrialists estimated that their plans for 1947 would cost over one billion dollars, 60 per cent higher than in 1946. About 65 per cent of the total was for new machinery and equipment, the remainder for new construction. As these additions have been completed, they have added strongly to the rising volume of production.

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(2) First nine months.

Agricultural production was down somewhat. The 1947 wheat crop is estimated at 352.2 million bushels--a late season and poor harvesting weather in many areas account for the gap between this and last year's crop of 420.7 million bushels.

Livestock production also slumped--cattle slaughterings for the first nine months of 1947 were 24 per cent less than the same 1946 period; hog slaughterings were slightly less but there were indications that the last few months of the year might change this situation. The meat-packing strike began in August, which affected livestock slaughterings and meat exports to the United Kingdom. A major factor contributing to the lower livestock production, is ~~other~~ high prices for grains have made it more worthwhile for farmers to concentrate on that production alone, rather than use the feed grains in cattle and hog raising.

### Retail Trade

The dollar value of consumer spending has been at about 10 per cent above last year's level, but since prices have risen 28 per cent, physical volume is somewhat lower. The pattern of buying changed during 1947. Rising costs of living have diverted purchasing power from "soft" goods, clothing, for example, into the essential staples such as food. Buyers' resistance to higher prices naturally affected most greatly the sales of clothing and other non-essential goods like jewellery and candy. Further, as production of washing machines, refrigerators and other durable goods increased, consumers spent more money on them and cut their expenditures in other directions. Thus, while 10 per cent is the average gain of 1947 retail sales over 1946 sales (3) (unadjusted for price gains), food sales increased 12 per cent and radio and electrical goods by 24 per cent, but women's clothing advanced only 6 per cent; shoe sales, 6 per cent; family clothing, 7 per cent; and jewellery sales dropped some 10 per cent.

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(3) Both first 10 months.

## EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITIES

The current situation at National Employment Service offices presents a very slow labour market with fewer jobs to offer the seasonal inflow of workers than at any time since the beginning of 1943. In general, however, employment levels have been well-sustained and, although unemployment is increasing, especially in the Maritimes and British Columbia, it is mainly of short-time duration and may be expected to dissolve with the spring upswing in activity.

This section also deals with the efforts of National Employment Service to meet the seasonal needs of agriculture through transference of labour.

A progressively increased accumulation of job-seekers characterized the labour market scene during November and December. Approximately 5,000 a week were added to the ranks of the unplaced - the 90,000 job-seekers registered with National Employment Service at the beginning of November had risen to 137,000 at December 25.

A combination of factors promoted the steady deterioration in the employment field. There were, as normally, seasonal down-trends at this time of year; with the advent of winter weather, activity in construction, transportation and agriculture was drawing to a close. Accenting the slowdowns was the greater infiltration of farm labour into the labour market, due both to poorer crop yields and the currently reduced livestock holdings. Also the Dollar Savings Plan had produced an air of uncertainty in the industrial and selling fields; hirings were few and in some industries lay-offs had ensued.

The current situation, however, may still be said to fulfil the general conditions of full employment. At November 8, unemployment was less than 2 per cent of the labour force. Also, despite the unremittant rise in the unplaced applicants during the past three months, the number recorded out-of-work in late December had only reached the seasonal low-point for all of 1946.

### Registration of applicants indicated continued gains--

During November, registration of applicants reached a weekly rate of 35,000, the highest total for 1947, excepting the month of January. The bulk of applicants were unskilled, many of whom were older or physically handicapped. Re-direction of these workers to other lines of employment was extremely difficult at this time of year and was usually brought about only by vigorous employer relations work. The situation in respect to this class of workers however has improved over the year with considerably fewer unplaced than one year before.



Those partially-qualified are comprising a larger proportion of the unemployed. There has been a marked tendency towards tightening of employers specifications for workers. This has been reflected in a continual "weeding-out" of inefficient staff.

Labour demand extremely quiet with fewer hirings of additional help—Reporting of vacancies fell to a new all-time low during November - 23,000 were reported each week as against 29,000 and 39,000 one month and one year before respectively. Much of the current drop may be attributed to the early satiation of logging requirements. At the end of December, vacancies in logging were only one-third the number on file one year before. By December 25, the total number of vacancies on file had fallen to 41,000, many of which were for skilled workers and thus were not easily matched with available supply.

The reduced number of job opportunities was reflected in a sharply contracted placement rate, although the decline was less severe than for vacancies notified. Placements during November averaged 15,000 a week as against 16,000 and 18,000 in the comparative periods one month and one year before. Placements slumped in all provinces, with the Maritimes and British Columbia reporting fewer hirings during November than in any other month of the post-war period.

The October issue of the CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET presented an outline of clearance activity in the National Employment Service, whereby workers may be recruited anywhere within the Dominion. The following presents one aspect of clearance work—the seasonal movement of workers to meet agricultural needs.

#### ORGANIZED MOVEMENTS OF SEASONAL WORKERS IN AGRICULTURE (1)

The mechanization which has taken place in Canadian agriculture has made it possible for farmers, with their regular year-round workers, to deal with normal farm activities. This includes the care of livestock during the year and, for the most part, crop seeding. The harvesting of the various crops, however, creates a seasonal peak demand for labour which cannot be taken care of by the regular farm staff.

For this reason, special temporary help is necessary during the harvest season. Harvesting in Canada extends from haying in June to the picking of potatoes in October, but the demand for labour in various sections of the Dominion differs because of enterprise specialization.

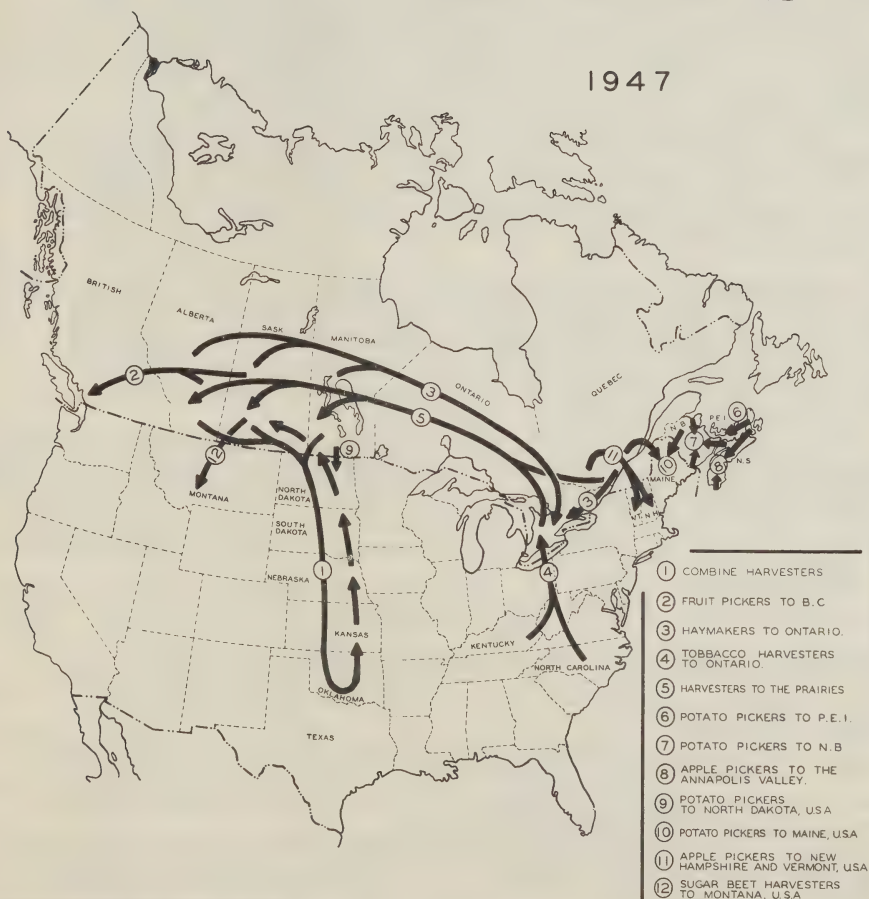
Since agriculture has become highly mechanized, labour requirements demand skills peculiar to the crop to be harvested. In each case, therefore, workers must be recruited who are suitable for the peculiar activity. The recruitment of such labour for harvesting is conducted in rural as well as in urban areas since both can provide workers who are familiar with methods and equipment of the district to be served.

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(1) This article has been prepared with the co-operation of officials of the National Employment Service. Responsibility for its contents, of course, rests with the Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

# ORGANIZED MOVEMENTS OF FARM WORKERS

1947



In many cases, urban centres contribute workers for the local harvest fields even though the peak labour demands of urban industry frequently occur at the same time. These urban residents, including students, persons on holiday, and unemployed, are enticed into this work because of relatively high farm wages paid during harvest periods. The short harvest season, coinciding as it does with accelerated activity in urban industries, places a heavy strain on manpower resources. In no harvest season since 1940 has this demand for farm workers been greater than in 1947. This was particularly true in Ontario and Quebec.

To meet this labour demand in 1947, it became necessary for the Department of Labour to work out plans for moving labour from areas of available manpower to areas of scarcity. These plans corresponded to the well organized army of transient workers of the United States. Because of the wide range of climate from south to north in that country, these transient workers begin work in the south in February and move north with the various harvests ending in the northern states late in the fall. Such an integrated program could not be worked out in Canada, but transfers of labour where necessary have been devised on an east-west basis.

Prior to the war, the number of workers on Canadian farms was greater than at present. This resident supply, together with transients who moved in to assist with the various harvests, provided the necessary labour with relatively little organization. During the war, much of this labour supply was drawn off the farms and into the Armed Forces and urban industry.

This dwindling in the size of the farm labour force, coupled with the heavy demand for food during the war, made it necessary to organize transfers of labour from surplus areas to areas of need. The dearth of farm labour during 1947 necessitated the continuance of this program of organized labour movements which had been largely instrumental in the harvesting of Canadian crops without loss.

These movements of workers have been planned and conducted through the co-operation of the Department of Labour, the National Employment Service, and the nine Provincial Departments of Agriculture. Movements of workers to and from the United States have been facilitated by the close co-operation of Dominion and Provincial officials in Canada and Federal and State officials in the United States.

During the war period, the Department of Labour bore the cost of transportation of workers, apart from a nominal payment by the worker. This plan was changed in 1947 when the worker paid a greater share of the cost and the balance was paid equally by the province using the labour and the Department of Labour. Throughout this program, the railways provided special low-cost fares.

To offset the complaint of workers participating in former movements, that some farmers were unable to provide sufficient employment for the number of men requested, all employers covered by the movement in 1947 were first approved by N.E.S. representatives.

There were 12 major farm movements organized during the 1947 season, involving approximately 20,000 persons. The following presents a resumé of the individual movements.

**COMBINE HARVESTERS**--The migration of 1,150 combine outfits and 3,400 men (450 from Alberta, 2,200 from Saskatchewan, 750 from Manitoba) to the wheat belt of the United States took place early in May. Living and travelling arrangements and a complete work program had been mapped out by U.S. Employment



Service officials. The outfits travelled south, some almost to the Texas border, and then moved north with the harvest, returning to Canada for our own harvest. The path followed by the workers and combines is indicated by the accompanying chart.

There was no financial assistance provided to stimulate the trek. The high level of wages, however, and the opportunity for employment during the slack season offered the necessary incentive. It was estimated that the total gross earnings of combine harvest operators and workers was \$4,500,000 in United States funds.

It was reported that some United States combine operators followed the harvest into Canada, but no statistics are available to show the number taking place in such a movement.

FRUIT PICKERS TO BRITISH COLUMBIA--The drifting of fruit pickers to British Columbia each Summer and Fall has been taking place for many years. Thus, in 1943, when National Employment Service took steps to organize a movement of workers, considerable groundwork had been laid.

In June, 885 women and girls were recruited for the strawberry and raspberry harvest in the Fraser Valley from Alberta and Saskatchewan, and were employed for a period of from 6 weeks to 5 months. Workers were moved from one point to another as the different fruits ripened. Sufficient workers were made available and no loss of crop was suffered.

Weekly earnings per worker averaged about \$18.00, although some earned as high as \$40.00 at peak periods. The women were, for the most part, housed in special quarters and did their own cooking. Transportation charges were shared, with the worker paying \$15.00 for fare to the fruit area and \$5.00 on the return trip; the balance of the transportation cost was shared by the Dominion and the British Columbia Department of Agriculture.

HAYMAKERS TO ONTARIO--Starting in 1944, National Employment Service has sponsored a movement of experienced Prairie farm workers to Ontario for haying and early harvesting. While requests for 2,000 helpers has been authorized for the 1947 season, only 1,160 men (322 from Alberta, 744 from Saskatchewan, 94 from Manitoba) responded. This was due to the fact that other industries within the region were in keen competition for between-season workers at relatively high wages.

Workers were guaranteed \$70.00 per month and board. Transportation charges were shared, the worker paying \$10.00 each way and the Dominion Department of Labour and the Ontario Department of Agriculture sharing the balance.

To augment the supply of workers from the Prairies, some 400 persons were recruited from Western Quebec.

TOBACCO HARVESTERS--Since the early 1930's, tobacco hands and curers from North Carolina, Kentucky and other tobacco growing states have made annual excursions to the tobacco regions of southern Ontario. During July and August 1947, approximately 1,300 men reported for this activity.

This year, the movement encountered some opposition from the Southern growers as the Canadian Tobacco harvest in 1947 coincided with their own tobacco harvest season. The Federal and State officials gave splendid co-operation to Dominion and Ontario officials in planning this satisfactory movement of workers.

The Canadian season was cut short by untimely frosts which destroyed a considerable amount of the Burley crop.

While N.E.S. arranged a high percentage of the placements, many of the growers did their own hiring, renewing contracts with men who had been coming for several years. No government arrangements for transportation were made. Earnings were high with good curers and handlers receiving \$12.00 to \$15.00 per day with board.

HARVESTERS TO THE PRAIRIE—The traditional movement of harvesters to the wheat areas of the Canadian West took place in August with 1,717 Ontario workers and 494 Quebec workers participating. Of these, 911 went to Manitoba, 642 to Saskatchewan and 458 to Alberta.

Many of the men travelled to a more westerly point than their first destination, following the wheat harvest in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. A few migrated to the sugar beet fields of the Lethbridge area following the cereal harvest. The number of those registering for this movement was reduced, compared to former years. The labour supply, however, was adequate to meet the demand.

Workers were assured of \$5.00 per day for stooking and \$6.00 per day for threshing, plus board. The majority of workers received more than this, however, and as the harvest gained momentum, many obtained as high as \$7.00 and \$8.50 per day.

Over the years, there has been a noticeable tapering off in the labour requirements for this movement; the number participating reached 35,000 in early years. This decline can be largely attributed to the growth of mechanization.

The arrangements for the Western movement were similar to those for the haying excursion. The transportation cost to the harvester, however, differed slightly with \$15.00 required in advance and \$10.00 for return fare. The province using the labour and the Department of Labour, Ottawa, shared the balance of the cost.

POTATO PICKERS TO PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—In September, some 700 Nova Scotian workers principally from the labour surplus area of Cape Breton, were moved to Prince Edward Island for the potato harvest. The workers received \$4.00 to \$5.00 per day with board, and transportation expenses were entirely shouldered by the Dominion Government and the Department of Agriculture for Prince Edward Island.

A few of these workers remained on the Island while others were encouraged to accept jobs in New Brunswick rather than to return to their homes where opportunities for employment were at a low level.

POTATO PICKERS IN NEW BRUNSWICK—Concurring with the movement of potato pickers to Prince Edward Island, more than 600 workers were made available to the potato growing districts of New Brunswick. Since the movement of workers was confined to the province, and since the distances travelled were short, no transportation arrangements were involved.

The workers earned from \$6.00 to \$10.00 per day on a piece work basis and the work lasted about four weeks.

APPLE PICKERS IN THE ANNAPOLIS VALLEY—Also in September, there was the task of harvesting a heavy crop of apples in the Annapolis Valley. Approximately 1,500 persons were brought into the area for picking and packing; workers received from \$4.00 to \$6.00 per day with board.

Arrangements were made to pay for transportation where necessary. However, the travelling distances were short, being confined to the province, and transportation was provided for only 400 of these workers.



POTATO PICKERS TO NORTH DAKOTA, U.S.A.---About 700 women and youths from southern Manitoba went to North Dakota for the potato harvest. The work lasted about five weeks and the pickers earned from \$6.00 to \$8.00 per day with board.

No transportation arrangements were undertaken by the Canadian Government.

POTATO PICKERS TO MAINE, U.S.A.---For the last three years, potato pickers from Quebec and northern New Brunswick have been going to the potato and vegetable growing areas of Maine for a period of 6 to 8 weeks. This represented the largest single movement of helpers during the 1947 season. Approximately 5,600 workers left Quebec and 600 from New Brunswick. This movement was organized through the cooperation of Provincial and Federal officers in Canada and those of the respective Federal and State Departments in the United States.

No transportation was advanced to cover the movement. However, in most cases, United States growers arranged for buses to pick up the workers either in the larger centres or at the border.

APPLE PICKERS TO NEW HAMPSHIRE AND VERMONT, U.S.A.---Under much the same conditions as those which governed the movement of workers to Maine, 200 men from the Quebec region were recruited and despatched to the apple districts of New Hampshire and Vermont for harvesting work. The pay was on a piece work basis. The season extended for a period of about 6 to 8 weeks.

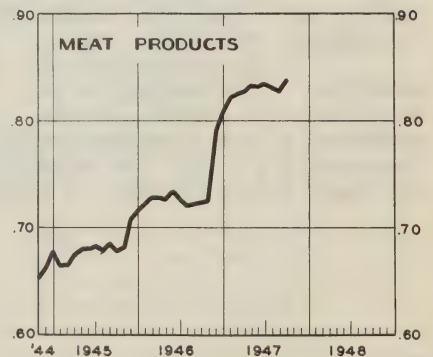
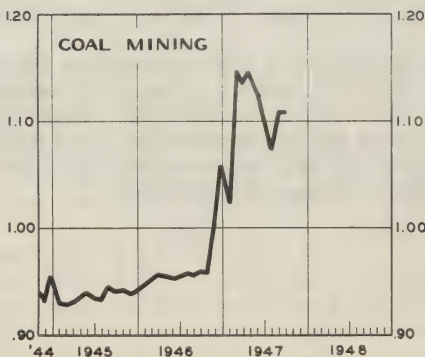
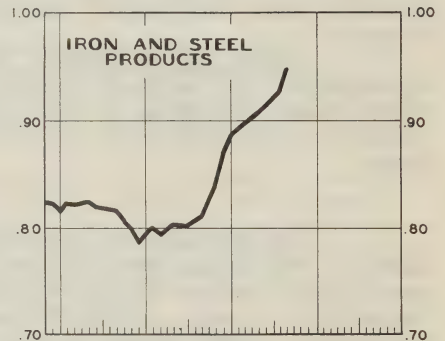
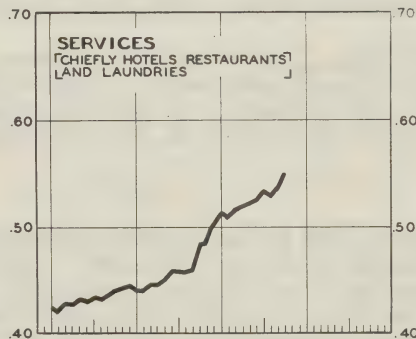
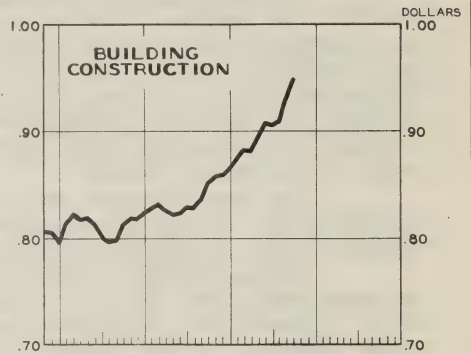
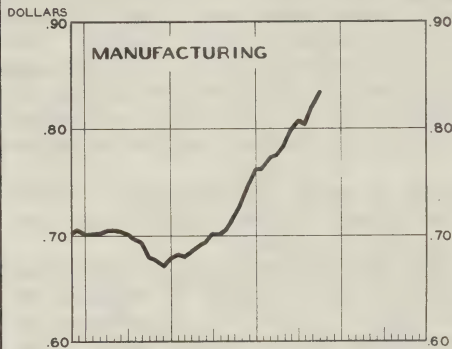
SUGAR BEET HARVESTERS TO MONTANA, U.S.A.--- Early in October, approximately 275 workers from southern Saskatchewan moved to the Milk River Valley of Montana for the sugar beet harvest. The workers remained there for about five weeks and received from \$6.00 to \$8.00 per day with board.

The movement of workers during 1947 was considered satisfactory since no crop losses were suffered because of labour shortages. It was particularly noteworthy that sufficient help was obtained through the cooperation of many agencies during the past season of labour scarcity. The Canadian labour market was in a highly competitive state; not only was there a great call for workers but employers were willing to bid for help by offering substantial wages.

It is anticipated that the majority of these movements may be continued in the coming years. This will, of course, depend on employment conditions and future harvests. The Minister of Labour, Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, announced at the Dominion-Provincial Farm Labour Conference, held early in December, 1947, that the seasonal migration will be necessary in 1948 despite the great relief afforded to agriculture through immigration.



# AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS IN CANADIAN INDUSTRIES



## EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

During the month of December, employment in most Canadian industries was at a seasonal and cyclical high. In logging, the cutting season was well underway, with a labour force estimated at 10 per cent above 1946. With the beginning of the severe weather, construction activity was being curtailed, although the resultant drop in employment was proportionately much less than in the normal peacetime year. Employment and production in the coal mining industry had returned to normal, after a four-month strike early in the year.

### CONSTRUCTION.....

Estimated employment (Jan. 1.).....	265,000
Unfilled vacancies.....	5,000

Construction activity during 1947 was at an all-time high, with an employment peak estimated at 285,000. Among the major divisions of the industry, the increase in employment, in comparison with last year, was greatest in building construction which averaged 30 per cent above 1946 in the first ten months. The increase in highway construction employment was less marked, being about 10 per cent over the previous year for the 10 month period. Employment in railway construction and maintenance, the third major group, was relatively unchanged.

During the early part of the year, it was feared that rising costs were cutting down on the volume of building as the value of contracts awarded dropped in the period from the beginning of March to the end of May. Much of this drop, however, was due to the heavy carry-over of work from 1946. In addition, a drop in the number of completions was due to unfavourable weather conditions.

The value of contracts awarded picked up in the last half of the year, with the 12 month total being \$718,137,000 or 8 per cent above 1946. This does not necessarily represent an increase in the physical volume of construction, as building costs are at least 10 per cent above 1946.

This advance in the value of contracts was due to a heavier volume of commercial and highway construction. Residential and industrial contracts have lagged behind 1946 in value. In spite of this, the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation predicts that from 73,000 to 77,000 housing units will be completed in Canada during 1947, as against the total of 64,000 completions during 1946.

Table I—Value of Construction Contracts Awarded, 1947

(Source: MacLean Building Reports)

	1947	1946	% Change 1947-1946
Residential.....	\$ 197,196,300	213,050,500	- 7.5
Business.....	239,530,200	186,805,500	+28.2
Industrial.....	113,495,000	138,328,500	-18.0
Engineering.....	167,915,600	125,170,600	+34.1
Total.....	718,137,100	663,355,100	+ 8.3

Table II—Indexes of Construction Costs, 1947  
(1935-39 = 100)

(Source: MacLean Building Reports)

Month	Building Materials	Wage Rates	Cost of Construc- tion
Jan.....	148.9	158.0	153.1
Feb.....	149.2	158.0	153.4
Mar.....	150.1	163.8	156.6
Apr.....	150.1	163.8	156.6
May.....	150.4	170.0	159.5
June.....	165.1	173.8	169.4
July.....	165.1	173.8	169.4
Aug.....	165.2	173.8	169.5
Sept.....	166.4	176.8	171.4
Oct.....	166.4	177.8	172.0

PULPWOOD LOGGING.....

Estimated employment (Jan. 1.).....90,000  
Unfilled vacancies.....11,400

Based on a continuing high demand for pulp and paper products, and especially for newsprint, employment in pulpwood logging was at record levels this year. It exceeded even the previous all-time high of the 1946-47 season.

At December 6, employment in Eastern Canada logging camps was estimated at 85,000, or nearly 10 per cent above the same date in 1946. Of this total, nearly 60,000 were working in the province of Quebec, 20,000 in Ontario, 4,000 in the Maritimes, and 1,000 in Manitoba.



For the first time since the beginning of the war, the supply of labour in this industry is reported as approximately equal to the demand. The 11,400 vacancies reported by the National Employment Service at the first of December represents chiefly demand resulting from the heavy turnover of loggers. During the first week of December, some 6,700 men were hired in Eastern Canada and 6,400 left the camps, indicating a labour turnover of over 30 per cent per month.

From the Lakehead area, it is reported that compared with the numbers of jobs available, a surplus of men are seeking bushwork. Activities of the National Employment Service in connection with woods labour have accordingly been curtailed. Among the reasons for this condition, the following were given: 1) the influx of farmers from Saskatchewan who experienced a poor crop year, 2) curtailment of cutting due to the recent export embargo of the Ontario government.

The labour force in the logging industry normally declines by about 25 per cent during the Christmas holiday season as many of the loggers go home for a few days. Following this temporary drop, employment increases rapidly and reaches its seasonal peak in January.

Data published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, which pertains to some 88,000 lumber and pulpwood loggers in all parts of Canada, shows that average weekly earnings in this industry were \$36.71 at October 1. At the same date in 1946, the comparable figure was \$30.54. Allowance has not been made in these figures for board and lodging, which is usually provided to the bushworker.

#### COAL MINING.....

Estimated employment (Jan. 1.).....	25,000
Unfilled vacancies.....	633

Employment in the Canadian coal mining industry during 1947 was featured by a four-month strike in the Maritimes, which kept 14,000 miners off work for most of the period from February 15 to June 11. The labour force did not immediately revert to its pre-strike size following the settlement of this dispute but made a gradual return to normal during the last six months of the year. At January 1, 1948, employment was estimated at 25,000, approximately 2 per cent above January 1, 1947.

A further slight increase in employment is predicted for the first quarter of 1948, according to estimates released by the Employment Forecast Survey of the Department of Labour. Forecast employment for April 1, 1948, is 25,600.<sup>(1)</sup>

Shortages of labour are still being felt in the Western coal mines. Demand for certificated miners remains high in the Cranbrook, Vancouver Island, and Alberta areas with slight hope of filling these orders in the immediate future. Labour demand, as measured by unfilled vacancies reported to the National Employment Service at November 27, 1947, totalled 633, of which 568 were in the Prairie and Pacific regions.

<sup>(1)</sup> This estimate is based on a sample survey of 13 of the largest firms in the industry

With the return to more normal peacetime conditions, absenteeism, which reached 28 per cent during 1946, has been considerably reduced.

In this connection, an official of one large company reports:

"Labour supply is normal and absenteeism is improving. During December 1946, the absenteeism rate was 20.2 per cent; in July, 1947 8.0 per cent, and in August 1947, 10.9 per cent."

Hourly earnings received by the average coal miner are the highest for any industry for which comparable statistics are available. Latest figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show that average hourly earnings in coal mining were \$1.11 at October 1, 1947, as against 96 cents paid one year previously.

This figure will be further increased as some 12,000 miners in Nova Scotia will receive 40 cents per day more as a result of an increase in productivity during November. This brings the daily basic wage up to \$7.24.

Reflecting the effect of the prolonged strike during the first half of the year, production of Canadian coal mines during the first 11 months of 1947 was 14 per cent below 1946 level. During the latter part of the year, output picked up considerably, however. The following figures give production of coal (except coke) in short tons for all Canadian mines, with 1946 figures in brackets: September, 1,543,154 (1,426,929); October, 1,733,476 (1,624,591); November, 1,700,093 (1,576,999).

## MAJOR INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES DURING 1947

In 1947, two major strikes accounted for almost 75 per cent of the total number of man-working days lost as a result of industrial disputes. The first of these major strikes, in the coal mining industry in Nova Scotia, focussed public attention on an industry whose competitive position has long been poor and in which the history of labour-management relations has been very unsettled and even violent. The second major dispute, in the meat packing industry, brought to the fore the problem of provincial government arbitration in disputes involving companies whose plants were established in more than one province. In both of the strikes, gains by the workers were largely in the form of wage increases.

In contrast with the previous year, there were only two major work stoppages in Canada during 1947: one, a dispute in the coal mining industry of Nova Scotia; and, the other, a nation-wide strike in the meat packing industry. The major explicit cause of both strikes was the wage issue.

All of the other strikes during 1947 were primarily of local importance. During the latter part of the year, several strikes occurred in British Columbia which affected the local transportation, iron and steel, and furniture industries in that province. The process of unionization in the primary textile industry in Eastern Canada resulted in several small strikes and intense inter-union rivalry.

Together, the two major strikes accounted for nearly 75 per cent of the total of about 2,450,000 man-working days lost in the past year due to strikes. On this basis, the coal mining strike was the larger of the two, involving some 14,000 miners for most of the period from February 15 to June 11 with a total loss of 1,311,750 working days. In the meat packing dispute, 14,150 workers were idle from August 27 to October 24, for a total time loss of 487,000 days.

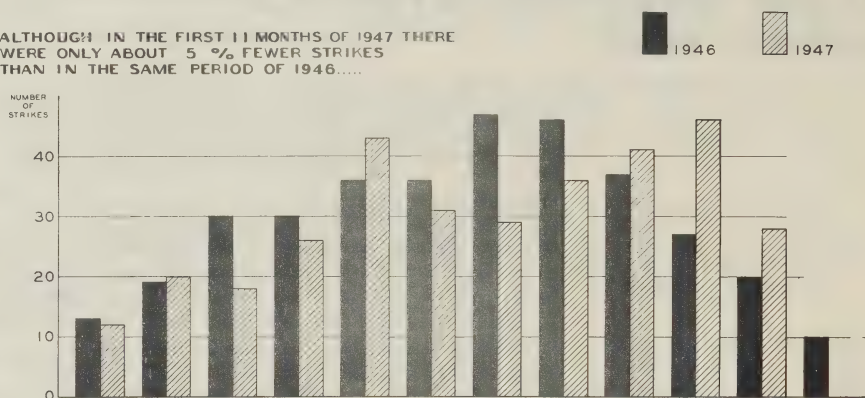
### Comparison with 1946 -

In 1946, there were 228 strikes in Canada with a resulting time loss of 4,500,000 working days, an all-time high. This exceptionally high figure was due mainly to several strikes of unusually long duration. These included strikes in the forestry and metal mining industries of British Columbia, automobile and electrical apparatus industries of Ontario, textile plants of Quebec, primary steel plants of Nova Scotia and Ontario, and a strike of seamen in the Great Lakes shipping industry.

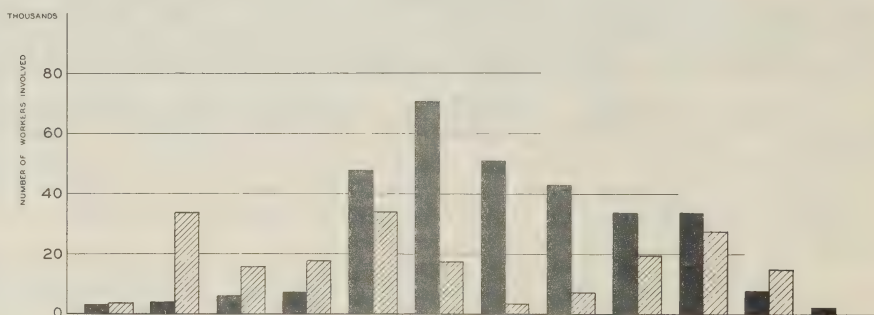


# STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS

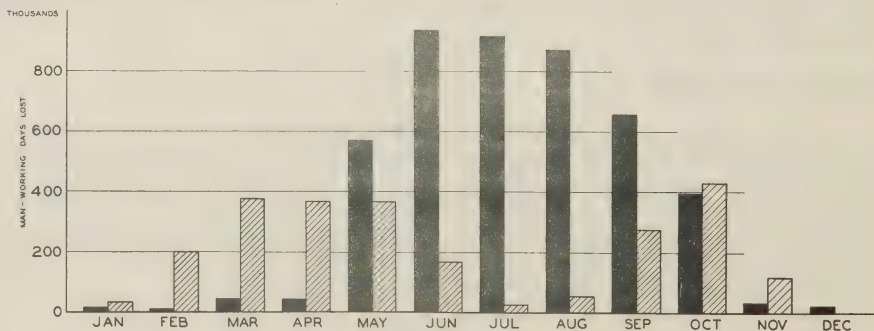
ALTHOUGH IN THE FIRST 11 MONTHS OF 1947 THERE WERE ONLY ABOUT 5 % FEWER STRIKES THAN IN THE SAME PERIOD OF 1946.....



THERE HAVE BEEN ABOUT 45 % FEWER WORKERS INVOLVED.....



AND ABOUT 46 % FEWER MAN-DAYS LOST.....



## The Coal Mining Strike

The 1947 strike in the Maritime coal mines added another chapter to the long history of labour-management disputes in this industry. The roots of this strike, the first general walkout since 1925, go deeper than a dispute over wages, and are traceable to the basic economic weakness and unsatisfactory state of labour-management relations in the industry.

Coal mining in Canada, as in many countries has long been the "sick man" of the economy. In addition, the locale of the strike, the Maritimes, was the major area of unemployment in Canada during the past year. Consequently, a four-month wage deadlock, with an accompanying loss estimated at \$7,000,000 in wages and \$20,000,000 in production, served to focus public attention on the industry and the area.

### 1. Economic Background -

Many of the basic difficulties in Canada's coal mining industry spring from the fact that while 60 per cent of the country's coal is consumed in Quebec and Ontario, its production is confined entirely to the Maritimes and the Western provinces. Although all Canadian governments since 1928 have adopted a policy of transportation subventions, supplemented since 1942 by producer subsidies, central Canada continues to import 25,000,000 tons of coal annually from the United States.

These marketing problems are complicated further by such factors as labour troubles, low productivity, insufficient mechanization, and, many technical difficulties arising out of the nature of the Canadian coal deposits. The net result is that Canada cannot produce coal cheaply enough to undersell the American product even in areas relatively near the Canadian mines, except by a system of government subsidies.

### 2. Labour Organization -

Employees' associations in coal mining date back to 1879. The United Mine Workers of America (C.C.L.), to which over 95 per cent of the miners now belong, has been active in the industry since the early 1900's. The first two decades of the century witnessed bitter inter-union rivalry between the U.M.W.A. and the P.W.A. (Provincial Workmen's Association), an older union whose activities were confined to Nova Scotia. This rivalry, punctuated by violent strikes in the period from 1909 to 1911, was not resolved until 1917 when the two unions amalgamated. In 1918, the new union joined the U.M.W.A., and the period from 1918 to 1925 was one of almost incessant labour troubles. Two wage increases were followed by an arbitrary wage cut of 33 per cent which touched off a series of strikes, slowdowns, and acts of sabotage culminating in the appointment of a Royal Commission to investigate the industry (Duncan Commission, 1924 and 1932).

The present executive, elected in 1942, is composed largely of members of a dissident U.M.W.A. faction and leaders in the 1941 slow-down.

It is impossible to delineate in such a brief summary the true atmosphere of hostility between labour and management in the early years of unionism in this industry. Although this attitude has somewhat moderated in the last few years, the effect of the past is still a real and tangible influence on the present trend of collective bargaining in coal mining.

### 3. The Wage Settlement -

These financial and labour problems created a background which when combined with the intransigent spirit developed in the wage dispute, hindered severely the successful conclusion of the negotiations. Final settlement was reached in Nova Scotia on May 25 on the basis of a \$1.40 a day wage increase of which 40 cents was to be conditional on an increase in productivity by December 1 to the 1939 level. An alleged violation of some of the minor terms of the 58 point settlement led to a second walkout from May 25 to June 11.

Early in December, it was reported that productivity in most mines operated by Dosco was back to the 1939 level of 2.34 tons daily per man and accordingly all Dosco miners, some 12,000 in number would receive the additional 40 cents. This increase, together with the \$1.00 previously received, brought the daily basic wage to \$7.24. This increase was granted to workers in all mines including those where the 1939 level of productivity had not been reached. This is at least an indication that labour-management relations in this industry may be improving.

The original wage demands of the U.M.W.A. in this dispute were for a \$2.50 increase in the daily basic rate and a 15 per cent increase in the rates paid for contract work. These demands were presented to the operators after a strike vote had been taken on November 26, 1946, in which the miners voted 4-1 in favour of striking if the union executive considered the reply of the employers unsatisfactory. The expiry date of the existing two-year collective agreement was January 31, 1947. As it became clear that negotiations would likely be prolonged, this date was extended to February 15 in an effort to bring about a settlement without a work stoppage.

Negotiations carried on under Federal Conciliation during January were unsuccessful in arriving at a compromise. The U.M.W.A. had scaled its demands down to \$1.40 per day plus provisions for a welfare fund and a contributory pension plan. The operators offered an increase of \$1.40 per day contingent on an increase in productivity to the pre-war level. Changes in the new contract, apart from the wage settlement, were of relatively minor importance.

This offer by the company was unacceptable to the union and a general strike was called February 15 which resulted in the four-month impasse.

### 4. Proposed Solutions during Negotiations after Strike Commenced -

A. Increase in Subsidy Payments: One of the suggested solutions to the strike was an increase in the payment of subsidies granted to the industry by the Federal government. It was the opinion of the government, however, that the industry was now receiving the maximum amount of financial aid advisable under existing conditions.



A section of the majority recommendations of the report of the Royal Commission on Coal, issued during 1947, is pertinent to this point. The report states in part:

".....operators throughout Canada should not be encouraged to rely on subventions if improved methods of production will lower costs.....The principal operators in Nova Scotia propose extended mechanization and predict in many mines it will raise productivity above the pre-war level. The proposed improvements are overdue".

And further on:

"It is not generally practical to fix subvention aid by statute because the assistance must vary from time to time with changes in the competitive situation. It is extremely important that any aid extended should be attended by scrutiny of the efficiency of operations."(1)

B. Price Increases: The mediator in the strike, the Hon. Mr. Justice Carroll, considered that any increase in price "would sound the death knell of the industry" due to the competition from mines in the United States, so this suggestion was rejected. Since the strike occurred, however, increases in the price of coal have been made.

C. Increase in Productivity: This conditional clause in the companies' offer was objected to in principle by the U.M.W.A., before it was incorporated into the final agreement.

Productivity in Nova Scotia coal mines, as measured by the number of tons produced per man-day, declined from 2.34 in 1939 to 1.58 in 1945.

The question of productivity is not generally brought into collective bargaining negotiations because of the difficulty in isolating and determining the effect of the many factors which enter into it. In the above figures, productivity is related to only one variable, labour. Other factors and conditions which may determine changes in output per man-hour are the efficiency of management, the extent of mechanization, the extent to which capacity operation is achieved, the nature and location of the raw materials and many others.

In this case, it appears that the major reason for the drop in productivity is to be found in the labour factor. The composition of the labour force in the coal industry underwent considerable change during the war period, all of which had a marked effect on the rate of output.

The proportion of "face" workers to total employment dropped from 31 per cent in 1939 to 22 per cent in 1941. The long term trend towards a higher proportion of older men in the labour force was accelerated, rising from 29 per cent in 1931 to 37 per cent in 1941 (Nova Scotia). Absenteeism increased during the war years from a "normal" of from 5 to 10 per cent to a high of 28 per cent.

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(1) Report of the Royal Commission on Coal, p. 583.

With the return to more normal conditions in the labour force, productivity is now back to its 1939 level in Nova Scotia.

## 5. Conclusions -

It can hardly be said that this strike did much to stimulate a co-operative atmosphere in collective bargaining in the coal mining industry. Extensive use of the strike weapon appears to be almost a necessary characteristic of labour-management relations in this industry.

In 1946, over 18 per cent of the total number of strikes in Canada were in the coal mining industry although the number of union members in the industry form less than 3 per cent of the total of all organized labour. In the future, it seems likely that this high rate of strike action will continue as long as an atmosphere of mutual suspicion and distrust between labour and management exists. Such an atmosphere is in direct contradiction to the spirit of compromise necessary for effective collective bargaining.

### The Meat Packing Strike

The 1947 strike provided the first real peacetime test of the strength of unionism in the meat packing industry. The fact that the union, the United Packinghouse Workers of America (C.I.O.-C.C.L.), was able to carry out a successful strike at a time when the wage issue was quiescent in other industries, indicates a strong bargaining position even though it was unable to obtain a single overall settlement which would cover all plants and all workers.

The report of Mr. Justice C.F. McTague in connection with this strike marks a further step in the development of collective bargaining in the meat packing industry. The report, issued December 2, 1947, dealt with the dispute between the U.P.W.A. and Canada Packers and Burns & Company Ltd. In addition to granting a general wage increase of ten cents an hour to the employees of these two firms, recommendations were made regarding several other important collective bargaining problems such as the length of the work week, the expiry date of the contract, regional wage differentials, and union membership and check-off.

## 1. The Background of Collective Bargaining -

In 1939, workers in the meat packing industry were almost entirely unorganized. At the end of 1946, some 17,000 packinghouse workers out of a total employment of about 23,000 were trade union members, with collective bargaining agreements governing the conditions under which they worked.

One of the most important factors in this rapid expansion of unionization was the aggressive policy of the U.P.W.A. The story of the growth of unionism in the meat packing industry after 1939 is to a large extent the story of the growth of the U.P.W.A. in Canada. This union, which had 17,000 members at the end of 1946, of whom about 14,000 were packinghouse workers, is by far the largest and most active union in the industry.

A second factor which expedited the rate of unionization was the favourable economic situation. In Canada, over 60 per cent of the total of 23,000 packinghouse workers are employed by three firms, Canada Packers, Swift Canadian, and Burns; 90 per cent of the work force is distributed among the 13 largest producers. By means of agreements with relatively few companies, the union could achieve well-nigh industry-wide organization. In addition, the rising price and wage structure and the general shortage of labour in the Canadian economy, greatly simplified the job of unionization for the U.P.W.A.

Thirdly, the legal basis under which unions operated was changed during the war. The scope of Federal activity was greatly enlarged. Through the operation of the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, as extended to war-important industries by P.C. 3495 and P.C. 1003, the Federal authorities assumed some jurisdiction in matters of labour relations ordinarily within provincial jurisdiction.

The importance of the meat industry, while not so recognized by legislation after 1943, dictated Federal intervention through the appointment of Industrial Disputes Inquiry Commissions under P.C. 4020. This procedure was used, after consultation with the provinces, in 1944 and subsequent years.

Under these conditions, it was possible for the U.P.W.A. to bargain on a national basis. In effect, national bargaining in the meat packing industry dates from 1944 when the Federal government intervened in a dispute involving the three major companies in the industry and the U.P.W.A. Master agreements between the companies and the unions, however, did not come until 1946.

## 2. Wage Rates -

With the additional ten cent-an-hour increase received by the 14,000 workers involved in the 1947 strike, the average hourly wage in the meat packing industry now is approximately 90 cents.

Three general wage increases have been granted to the packinghouse workers in the three year period from 1945 to 1947 inclusive. In 1945, a general increase of 6.8 per cent was obtained and in 1946 and 1947 a straight wage boost of ten cents an hour "across-the-board" was given. Other revisions in 1947 included regional increases to minimize wage differentials and an increase to maintain take-home pay following the reduction in hours from 45 to 44 per week.

The estimated index of wage rates in the meat packing industry was 185.0 for 1947. This index is heavily weighted by rates paid in the "Big Three"; the smaller, independent establishments have tended to pay lower wage rates. The indexes tabled below, on the base 1939 = 100, show the upward trend of wage rates in this industry since the war.

	<u>Meat Packing</u>	<u>All Industries</u>
1939.....	100.0	100.0
1940.....	103.2	103.9
1941.....	112.7	113.1
1942.....	119.0	122.5
1943.....	135.1	132.8
1944.....	137.3	137.5
1945.....	141.0	141.8
1946.....	165.4	155.3
1947 (estimated).....	185.0	--



As is shown, the movement of wage rates in meat packing from 1939 to 1945 corresponded quite closely to that for all industries, but during 1946 and likely again in 1947 the former advanced more rapidly.

### 3. Regional Wage Differentials -

As well as its primary aim of securing a higher level of wage rates in the meat packing industry, the U.P.W.A. has always had a secondary goal of uniform occupational wage rates by region.

This point was one of the more important principles under discussion during arbitration proceedings at the time of the recent strike. In his report, Mr. McTague found that complete uniformity of wage rates between areas was undesirable, because, although most companies in the industry operate on a national basis, each plant is a purely local operation. Mr. McTague said in part:

"I do not believe that wages should necessarily be made uniform throughout because there are different factors relating to wages in different districts. Neither on the other hand do I believe that certain districts should remain chronic low wage areas because of factors that are not fundamentally related to wages at all."

Accordingly, in order to even out the regional differential it was recommended that wage adjustments, varying from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cent to 5 cents per hour be made in six establishments of Canada Packers Ltd., and three of Burns & Company,

Further Mr. McTague recommended that the U.P.W.A. be provided with information on job classifications and wages. Mr. McTague said:

"I am of the of the opinion that this goes to the very root of collective bargaining. How can bona fide collective bargaining be carried on when the Union is kept in the dark as to classifications and wages paid?"

### 4. Trend of Standard Hours -

In contrast with the upward movement of wage rates, the trend of standard hours in this industry has been steadily downward.

For most packinghouse employees, the standard work week is now 44 hours, with time and a half paid for overtime. Employees in most plants have a guaranteed work week, usually in the 36-38 hour range.

In the 1945 collective bargaining agreements reached between the U.P.W.A. and the "Big Three", the standard work week in 16 of the 17 plants affected (the Canada Packers Plant in Hull, Quebec being the exception) was reduced from 48 hours to 45 hours and the weekly guaranteed hours from 40 to 37½. In the 1946 agreements, the 45 hour work week became general; in 1947, a further reduction to 44 hours was made in the plants of Canada Packers, Swift Canadian and Burns and Company.

## 5. Method of Settlement -

The strike also served to focus attention on the mechanics of dealing with a national strike in industries which come under provincial laws.

Before World War II, the problem was not so pressing since most of the mass production industries, such as those producing steel, rubber, and meat packing, were unorganized. During the war years, settlements were made on a national scale by means of emergency legislation. Now, with the return to provincial jurisdiction, the problem is greater for the meat packing industry than for such industries as steel and rubber which are less widely distributed geographically.

It cannot be said that any definite method of settlement has arisen out of the 1947 strike. It is likely, however, that most collective bargaining agreements in the meat packing industry will follow the pattern laid down in the Canadian Packers and Burns and Company settlements. In the case of Swift Canadian, settlement was made by direct labour-management negotiation on a national basis. The Canada Packers and Burns and Company settlements were made with some provincial conciliation and the final conditions accepted were those laid down by an arbitrator appointed by the Ontario Department of Labour even though the plants concerned were in several provinces. In the case of Wilsil Ltd., a large Montreal meat packing firm, an agreement was reached without the participation of the U.P.W.A.

However, the settlement suggests a trend away from government arbitration. This year, there was not such a high degree of government action or pressure on the parties and there were no imposed methods of settlement, such as by controllers and commissioners.

## 6. Union Membership and Check-off -

Since 1944, the emphasis in collective bargaining negotiations in this industry has been on wages and hours rather than on union security issues. Again this year, the clauses concerning union security in the Canada Packers and Burns and Company agreements remain largely unchanged. All of the agreements with the "Big Three" since 1944 have provided for union security by some form of "maintenance of membership" clause and by provision for a voluntary revocable check-off.

During the arbitration proceedings in the recent strike the U.P.W.A. made a request for a "union" shop, as distinct from a "closed" shop. Fred Dowling, Canadian director of the U.P.W.A., pointed out that, while all employees shared in the benefits gained by the union, the cost of securing these benefits was borne by union members only.

In ruling against the adoption of the "union" shop principle or the adoption of the Rand formula (which provides for compulsory check-off of all employees whether they are union members or not), Mr. McTague said in part:

"That the Rand formula will necessarily promote greater responsibility on the part of the Union and therefore good industrial relations, I have grave doubts..... It is true that the Rand formula may be just and equitable as far as the 'dead beat and free rider' is concerned, but I think it is jumping at conclusions to assume that it is any general rule that persons who object to the check-off are 'dead beats and free riders'. It may well be that a considerable proportion of those objecting to the check-off do so because of their conviction that the affairs of the Union are being conducted in a way which does not meet with their approval".

In conclusion, the gains made by the U.P.W.A. in this strike were confined chiefly to the wage rate increases. In the other issues, especially union security, no fundamental advance was made. Of equal importance was the fact that the final settlement was made on a "company" rather than on an "industry" basis.



## RECENT WAGE CHANGES

The wage change announcements which appear in the following pages were made during the month of December and the latter part of the month of November. They affect a total of almost 34,000 workers, almost 8,000 less than the number who received wage increases during the previous month. On the whole, the increases were smaller than those granted the previous month, ranging for the most part between 5 and 10 cents per hour, with the exception of the 10 to 13 cent increases granted workers in the three large meat-packing plants. It is likely that the third round of Canadian wage negotiations will open in earnest during January.

Since wage control was relaxed, the number of firms granting wage concessions to their employees has greatly increased. In many cases, these wage increases have been directly due to the rise in the cost of living which has been taking place. Increased living costs have been particularly sharp in the past few months and seem likely to continue. In the immediate future, therefore, one of the most significant developments in the Canadian economy will be the extent to which such wage gains keep pace with the rise in the cost of living.

In view of the above, it has been decided to keep a record of the wage changes which occur from month to month. In addition, an attempt will eventually be made to evaluate the effect of wage changes which do occur on the wage indexes published by the Department of Labour.

Each month, therefore, a list of all the reported wage changes which occur, and for which information is available, will be published in this report. The first of such lists appeared in the November issue of the Canadian Labour Market; the second appears in the following pages.

The sources of information on wage announcements are numerous. The announcements which will appear in this listing are obtained from press clippings, trade journals, union newspapers and magazines, narrative reports from the managers of local National Employment Service offices, narrative reports from the field interviewers of the Employment Forecast Survey carried out by this Branch and any other sources which are available. These individual wage changes will be listed each month according to the industry in which the specific firm is classified.

It should be understood that the wage changes which are reported in the following listing do not represent all the changes that have occurred. There is no disciplined means of establishing such a complete record. The listing, however, will contain most of the major wage announcements, and will indicate the pattern that is being followed in most industries. All of the items in this listing will be confined to wage earning employees.

Wage Increase Announcements, December, 1947

Industry and Firm	Amount	Date Effective	Number Affected
<u>MINING</u>			
<u>Coal Mining:</u>			
Acadia Coal Co. Ltd., N.S.	40¢ a day	Dec. 1/47	1,323
Cumberland Railway & Coal Co. N.S.	"	"	1,350
Dominion Coal Co. Ltd., N.S.	"	"	7,634
Old Sydney Collieries, Ltd., N.S.	"	"	1,503
<u>MANUFACTURING</u>			
<u>Primary Textile Products:</u>			
Woods Manufacturing Co., Welland	7¢ per hr.	Nov. 19/47	600
Goodyear Cotton Co., St. Hyacinthe, Que.	8¢ per hr.	Aug. 11/47	850
Valley Dyeing & Finishing Co., Valleyfield, Que.	8-9¢ per hr. (male) 7¢ per hr. (female)	Nov. 24/47	110
Consolidated Textiles, Ltd. St. Hyacinthe, Que.	10¢ per hr.	Oct. 6/47	100
Belding Corticelli Ltd., St. Johns, Que.	7¢ per hr.	Dec. 21/47	250
<u>Clothing:</u>			
Comfort Kimona & Dress Co., St. Therese, Que.	8% of weekly earnings	Jan. 1/48	80
<u>Food Processing:</u>			
Canada Packers. Ltd., Toronto	10¢ per hr.	Aug. 1/47	2,300
Canada Packers, Charlottetown	15¢ per hr.	"	100
Canada Packers, Montreal	13¢ per hr.	"	1,200
Canada Packers, Hull	13¢ per hr.	"	400
Canada Packers, Peterborough	14¢ per hr.	"	300
Canada Packers, Edmonton	11½¢ per hr.	"	730
Canada Packers, St. Boniface	11½¢ per hr.	"	1,400
Burns & Co., Ltd., Kitchener	10¢ per hr.	"	500
Burns & Co., Ltd., Winnipeg	11½¢ per hr.	"	975
Burns & Co., Ltd., Calgary	11½¢ per hr.	"	660
Burns & Co., Ltd., Edmonton	11½¢ per hr.	"	500
Swift Canadian Co. Ltd., Moncton	13¢ per hr.	"	300
Swift Canadian Co. Ltd., Moose Jaw	10¢ per hr.	"	400
Swift Canadian Co. Ltd., New Westminster	10¢ per hr.	"	150
Swift Canadian Co. Ltd., St. Boniface	10¢ + 2.27% of Aug. 1/47 rate	"	700
Swift Canadian Co. Ltd., Toronto	10¢ per hr.	"	1,350
Swift Canadian Co. Ltd., Edmonton	10¢ + 2.27% of Aug. 1/47 rate	"	700
Rowntree Chocolate Co. Ltd., Toronto	6¢ per hr.	Jan. 1/48	250

Wage Increase Announcements (Cont'd)

Industry and Firm	Amount	Date Effective	Number Affected
<u>MANUFACTURING (Cont'd)</u>			
<u>Lumber and its Products:</u>			
Commonwealth Plywood Co., St. Therese, Que.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ % & 6¢ per hr.	July 1/47	400
Canadian Wooden Aircraft Ltd., Stratford, Ont.	12¢ per hr.	Dec. 15/47	150
Gibbard Furniture Shops, Napanee, Ont.	5%	Jan. 1/48	140
Dominion Furniture Manufacturers, Ltd., St. Therese, Que.	8¢ per hr.	Jan. 1/48	40
Stratford Chair Co., Stratford	10¢ per hr. 3¢ per hr.	Dec. 1/47 June 1/48	130
<u>Iron and its Products:</u>			
St. Lawrence Alloys and Metal Co., Beauharnois, Que.	14¢ per hr.	Dec. 15/47	750
Outboard Marine and Manufacturing Co., Peterborough	28%	Oct. 1/47	650
Page Hersey Tubes, Ltd. Guelph	10¢ per hr.	Nov. 1/47	60
Brown-Boggs Foundry and Machine Shop, Hamilton, Ont.	5¢ per hr. 4¢ per hr.	Nov. 7/47 Mar. 31/48	200
Beatty Bros., Ltd., Fergus, Ont.	2, 3, & 5¢ per hr.	Dec. 1/47	900
Canadian Locomotive Co., Kingston	5¢ per hr. 4¢ per hr.	Sept. 1/47 Dec. 15/47	375
Bowmanville Foundry Co. Ltd.	5¢ per hr. 2¢ per hr.	Dec. 1/47 June 1/48	100
Coffield Washer Co. Ltd., Hamilton	5¢ per hr. 4¢ per hr.	Nov. 27/47 Apr. 1/48	70
Dominion Bronze and Iron Ltd., Winnipeg	8¢ per hr.	Nov. 25/47	30
Armco Drainage and Metal Products of Canada, Guelph	10¢ per hr.	Dec. 26/47	70
<u>Electrical Apparatus:</u>			
International Resistance Co., Toronto	10¢ per hr.	Oct. 20/47	170
General Dry Battery Co., Toronto	5¢ per hr.	Nov. 20/47	230
Leland Electric Co., Guelph	2¢ per hr.	Sept. 1/47	400
Langley Electric Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Winnipeg	10¢ per hr.	Nov. 25/47	55
Phillips Electrical Works, Brockville	10¢ per hr.	Jan. 1/48	850
<u>Other Metal Products:</u>			
United-Carr Fastener Co., Hamilton	7¢ per hr.	Sept. 3/47	450
Coro (Canada) Ltd., Toronto	10%	Nov. 25/47	250
<u>Chemical Products:</u>			
Aulcraft Paints Ltd., Toronto	10¢ per hr.	Nov. 1/47	45



Wage Increase Announcements (Cont'd)

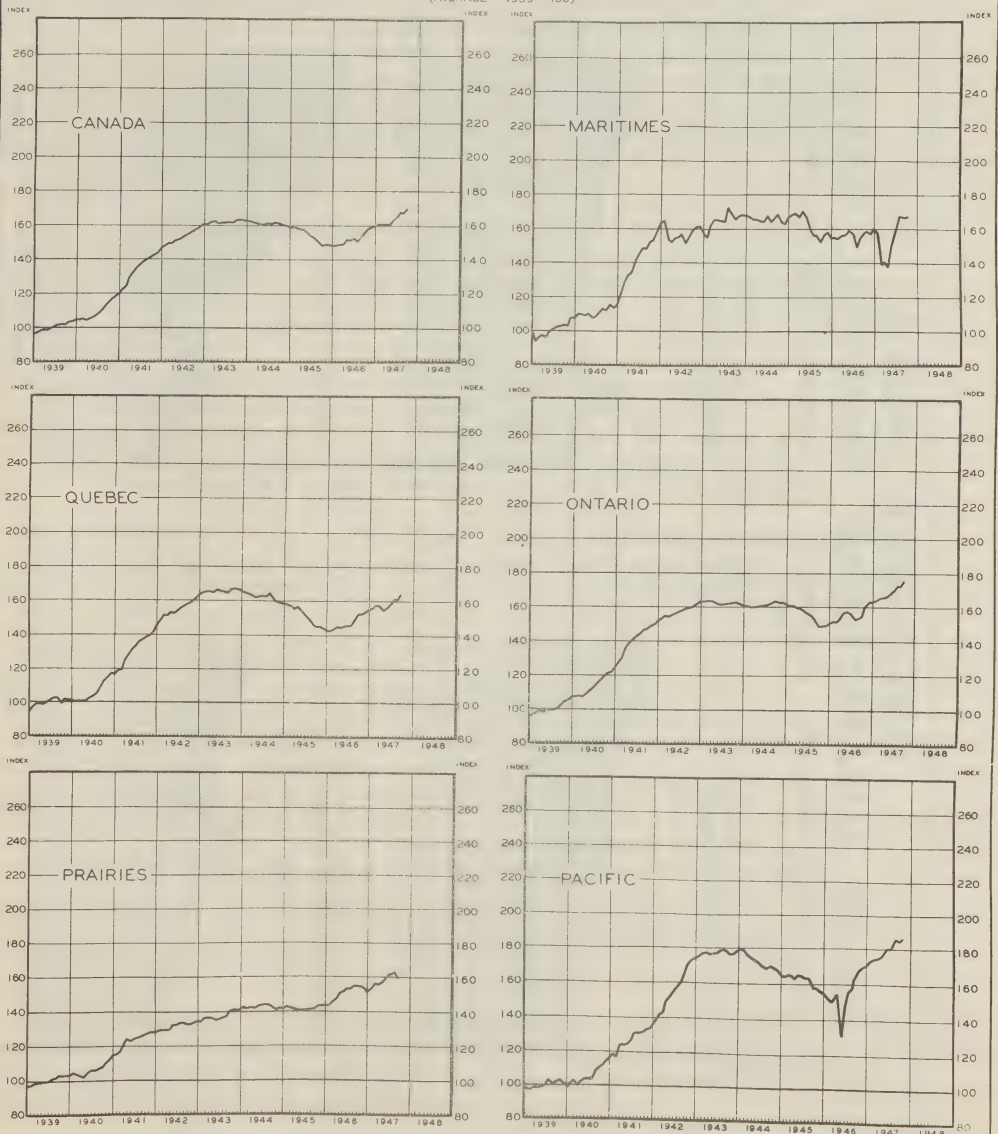
Industry and Firm	Amount	Date Effective	Number Affected
<u>TRANSPORTATION</u>			
Canadian Seamen's Union	\$20 per month	Oct. 15/47	500
Canadian Pacific Steamships, B.C.	10%	Dec. 1/47	50
Canadian National Steamships, B.C.	10%	Dec. 1/47	50
Eastern Canada Stevedoring Co. Ltd.	5½¢ per hr. (day)	May 19/47	600
Halifax	10¢ " " (night)	Nov. 29/47	

# REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)



SOURCE: EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME, BRANCH - D.B.S.

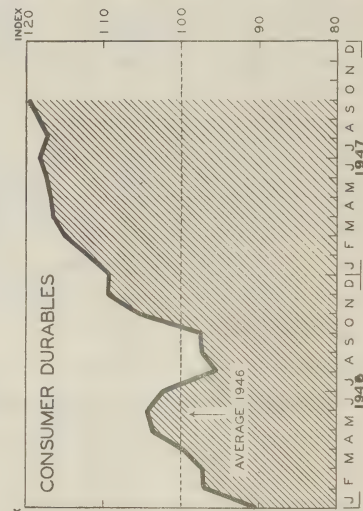
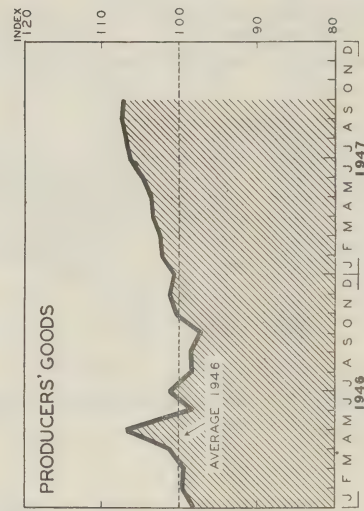
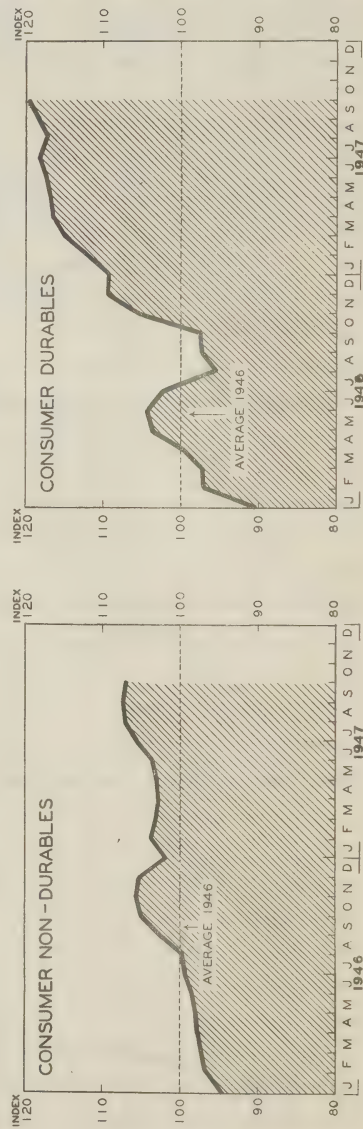
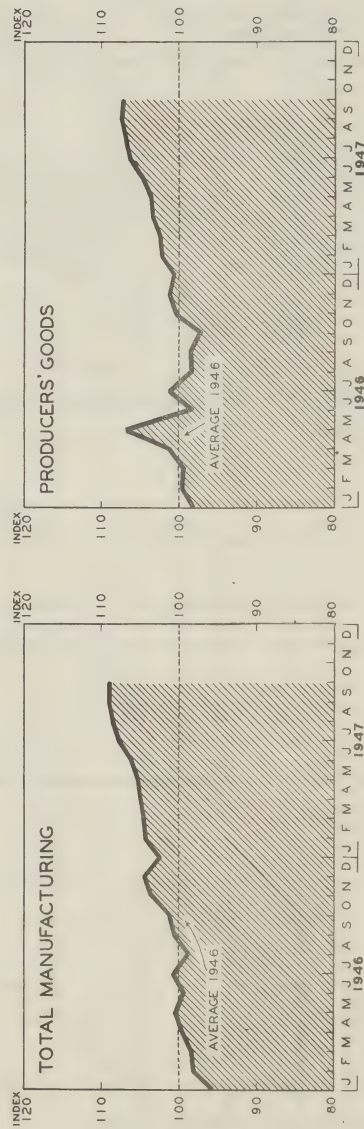
RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR

# EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

## MAJOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

(INDUSTRIES GROUPED ACCORDING TO GENERAL USE OF PRODUCTS)

1946 — 1947





## LABOUR MARKET RATING OF COMMUNITIES

In the following table, 38 of the major labour market areas in Canada are classified according to the number of unplaced applicants registered with the Employment Service office in each. In the past month, there has been no change in the grouping of the 38 major labour market areas, although there have been various slight changes within the groups.

This classification is based on a ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 non-agricultural wage and salary workers at work. In addition, these ratios have been consolidated into four groups, denoting four generally different labour market situations. The four groups can be explained as follows:

Group I -- Areas in which there are more than 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 non-agricultural wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the Mid-Thirties.

Group II -- Areas in which there are between 150 and 300 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group is characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III -- Areas in which there are from 50 to 150 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV -- Areas in which there are under 50 unplaced applicants for every 1,000 wage and salary workers at work. The labour market situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Favourable, in the sense that it is comparable to conditions during the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be understood that the above ratio is only a general method of classifying labour market conditions as they are pictured by the local National Employment Service office. The ratings for October and November of 1947 are preliminary.

A detailed definition of the term "unplaced applicant" will be found in the following section of this report.

Table I--Labour Market Rating of Communities

Note: The thirty-eight areas below are arranged in descending order within each group.

Reference Page		Group Rating		
		December 1, 1947	November 1, 1947	December 1, 1946
	<u>Population of 100,000 and over</u>			
49	Quebec.....	III	III	III
58	Vancouver.....	III	III	III
56	Windsor.....	III	III	III
53	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
56	Winnipeg.....	IV	IV	III
51	Hamilton.....	IV	IV	III
48	Montreal.....	IV	IV	IV
55	Toronto.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of 50,000 to 100,000</u>			
47	Sydney.....	II	II	II
46	Halifax.....	III	III	III
47	Saint John.....	III	III	III
57	Calgary.....	IV	IV	III
57	Edmonton.....	IV	IV	IV
56	Regina.....	IV	IV	IV
52	London.....	IV	IV	IV
51	Fort William - Port Arthur....	IV	IV	III
	<u>Population of 25,000 to 50,000</u>			
48	Hull.....	III	III	III
53	Oshawa.....	III	III	III
52	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
58	Victoria.....	IV	IV	IV
54	St. Catharines.....	IV	IV	IV
50	Three Rivers.....	IV	IV	III
57	Saskatoon.....	IV	IV	IV
51	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
55	Sudbury.....	IV	IV	IV
54	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
49	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
52	Kitchener - Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV
	<u>Population of under 25,000</u>			
47	New Glasgow - Pictou.....	III	III	I
46	Amherst.....	III	III	III
50	Valleyfield.....	III	III	III
49	Shawinigan Falls.....	III	III	III
55	Welland.....	IV	IV	III
50	Sorel.....	IV	IV	III
48	Chicoutimi.....	IV	IV	III
53	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	IV
58	Trail.....	IV	IV	IV
54	Sault Ste. Marie.....	IV	IV	IV

### Explanation of Changes in Rating of Selected Areas

During the past twelve months, there have been several changes in the labour market rating for certain areas. The reasons for some of these changes are outlined below.

#### Three Rivers

Three Rivers, chiefly a pulp and paper and textile manufacturing centre, has been coping with a relatively serious unemployment problem since the collapse of its war industries during the latter part of 1945. In the course of the past year, manufacturing firms (with the exception of those producing textiles) have undergone a moderate employment expansion. The rate of increase in the number of jobs, however, has failed to keep up with the growth of the local labour force. Thus unplaced applicants, which have not numbered less than 2,500 since the beginning of 1946, reached a post-war high of 4,100 at July 1, 1947.

Between July and December of 1947, unplaced applicants declined by about 2,800. Consequently, labour market conditions in this area, which had been classified as Moderate throughout the first ten months of 1947, were designated as Favourable at November 1.

The sharp drop in the number of unplaced applicants between July and December may be attributed to two factors.

The first concerned the Shawinigan Water and Power Company development, less than twenty-five miles from Three Rivers. This project employed an estimated 3,000 men during October of the past year. Since the immediate area could not supply that many workers, hundreds of unskilled men were drawn from the labour pool which existed at Three Rivers. Additional men were employed at the job of erecting transmission lines between Shawinigan Falls and Three Rivers.

The second factor concerned the logging industry. Logging activity north of this city has absorbed a large number of workers. In the St. Maurice district alone, employment in the logging camps increased from approximately 3,000 at July 1 to about 10,000 at December 1.

#### Shawinigan Falls

During October, the labour market situation in Shawinigan Falls deteriorated slightly as a direct result of temporary lay-offs in the rubber goods manufacturing industry. These lay-offs were caused by a lack of raw materials, and affected female workers for the most part. As a result, the labour market rating of this area changed from Favourable to Moderate.

At October 1, of both this year and last, the labour market situation was designated as Moderate. Nevertheless, the past twelve months have witnessed a decided improvement in labour market conditions as a whole. Sizeable employment gains have been registered in local plants producing chemicals, and aluminum products, while employment in the pulp and paper industry is slightly above the 1946 level.

In addition, construction activity in this area reached an all-time high during the late summer and early fall of 1947. Among the many construction projects underway were the \$40,000,000 expansion program being



undertaken by the Shawinigan Water and Power Company, and employing about 3,000 men; the construction of four new units at the local Shawinigan Chemicals Limited plant at a total cost of \$1,680,000; and the expansion program of the Aluminum Company of Canada which involves a capital expenditure of \$500,000.

### Welland

Twelve months ago, labour market conditions in Welland were classified as Moderate. At November 1, 1947, conditions had improved to such an extent that they were then designated as Favourable. The latest employment figures show a gain of 900 in the number of wage and salary workers at work during the past twelve months.

A year ago, production in Welland's manufacturing industries (chiefly primary and secondary iron and steel manufacturing, textiles, rubber goods, electrical apparatus, and chemical products) was to a great extent hampered by shortages of materials stemming from country-wide strikes. In addition, 1,280 employees of the Electro-Metallurgical Company of Canada were out on strike from July 8 to October 15, 1946. At November 1, employment in this firm had not yet regained its pre-strike level.

Since October 1, 1946, employment in primary and secondary iron and steel manufacturing has gained about 39 per cent, textile employment has increased 5 per cent, rubber goods 27 per cent, and electrical apparatus 43 per cent. Employment in the chemical products manufacturing industry on the other hand, has dropped slightly from the October 1, 1946, but losses in this industry were heavily outweighed by gains in the aforementioned industries.

Employment in retail and wholesale trade and in the service fields has also shown a moderate increase during the past year. In addition, construction activity in the Welland area during the first ten months of 1947 was considerably above that of the corresponding period of 1946.

### Sorel

The shipyards of the Marine Industries Limited support about 75 per cent of all manufacturing employment in the Sorel labour market area. At November 1, 1946, when the labour market situation was termed Moderate, a lack of steel supplies made it impossible for the shipyards to maintain full production schedules. Thus, many essential workers were idle. Since that time, however, steel shipments have improved, and the Marine Industries Limited have taken on an additional 1,400 workers.

This gain in employment, combined with an active construction program, has been generally responsible for the change in labour market conditions since November 1, 1946. At present, the Sorel labour market is classified as Favourable.

It is estimated that an average of 300 construction workers were employed during the summer and fall of this year on the building of two hospitals and the new Canadian Celanese Limited plant. The latter plant is to be completed in January of 1948, and will employ a staff of about 400 women and 100 men when in operation.

Sault Ste. Marie

At November 1, 1946, labour market conditions in Sault Ste. Marie were designated as Moderate. One month later, the labour market situation was termed Favourable, and during the succeeding eleven months, Sault Ste. Marie has remained in the latter labour market rating.

As has been explained before, the labour market rating for any given month must, of necessity, be based on the employment estimate of the preceding month. Thus, the November 1, 1946, rating for Sault Ste. Marie was calculated by using the October 1, 1946 employment estimate. At October 1, 1946, over 3,600 employees of the Algoma Steel Corporation were on strike. Consequently, the estimated number of wage and salary workers at that date was abnormally low. The ratio of unplaced applicants to wage and salary workers, in turn, was high.

On October 3rd, the strike at Algoma ended, thus by December 1, 1946, the labour market situation was once again Favourable.





## AREA TABLES

The following area tables present statistical data on the labour market in 38 selected towns and cities. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in each area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

An "unplaced applicant" at any particular moment is a person who is registered at an office of the National Employment Service, and who either has not been placed in a job by the Employment Service, or for whom the Employment Service has had no notification of his obtaining a job on his own. It is obvious, therefore, that the number of unplaced applicants is not indicative of the total volume of unemployment in any area. In the first place, not all workers who are seeking jobs will register with the Employment Service. It is probable that most of those covered by Unemployment Insurance will do so in order to collect insurance benefits if their period of unemployment is sufficiently long. But, many workers do not come within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Act. Second, some workers who register with the Employment Service may be wanting merely to change jobs. At the time of registration, therefore, these workers would be already employed. Third, Employment Service regulations provide that when a worker registers for a job another contact need not necessarily be made with him by the Employment Service until 30 days have passed, unless, of course, a job was found for him in the meantime. If the worker obtains a job on his own during this period, the Employment Service may not be notified of this. In other words, a worker may still be counted as an unplaced applicant despite the fact that he now has a job. Finally, workers may register for work at more than one local employment office. When this occurs, there is the possibility that the same person may be counted twice as an unplaced applicant.

These qualifications in the meaning of the term "unplaced applicant" should be clearly borne in mind by any person who makes use of the term. They are due to the fact that the principal function of the National Employment Service is to match jobs and workers, and not to collect statistics. But, they do not render such statistics useless. At present, there is no statistical information available on the total volume of unemployment by area. This being the case, the number of unplaced workers registered with a local Employment Service office is a very important fact to consider when evaluating labour market conditions in a particular area. It is in this spirit that figures on unplaced applicants are presented in the following tables.

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the total number of job opportunities insofar as employers do not report all vacancies to the Employment Service.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the Employment Service.

Item	Canada			Amherst			Halifax		
	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed....	37	31	50	106	91	83	81	75	67
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	93,461	110,028	134,818	4	2	35	740	724	1,232
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	92,786	115,772	153,553	28	51	27	748	1,088	1,717
3. Total jobs available during month.....	186,247	225,800	290,371	29	53	62	1,488	1,812	2,949
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	58,521	64,180	71,961	23	41	31	504	573	894
% casual placements.....	12.5	13.0	9.2	-	2.4	-	21.0	11.2	4.1
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	59,911	93,461	111,641	-	4	12	607	740	1,024
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	95,746	87,236	134,126	300	348	300	3,042	3,015	2,750
% female.....	32.4	32.8	23.6	15.0	16.7	22.7	19.4	20.1	14.5
% veterans.....	29.3	26.3	33.4	40.5	27.6	48.0	37.8	35.9	42.3
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	-	16.1	20.8	-	21.8	40.9	-	27.1	26.3
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	14.8	-	11.8	5.0	-	5.8	14.7	-	16.7
% 20 - 45 ".....	56.5	-	60.0	65.9	-	68.6	63.4	-	62.7
% 46 - 50 ".....	17.7	-	17.7	22.1	-	17.9	15.8	-	14.8
% over 60 ".....	11.0	-	10.5	7.0	-	7.7	6.1	-	5.8
2. Applicants registered during month.....	139,879	128,210	162,422	190	130	222	1,976	1,966	2,435
3. Total workers available during month.....	235,625	215,446	296,548	490	478	522	5,018	4,981	5,185
% referred.....	40.3	47.8	38.9	7.3	13.4	13.2	18.9	22.2	29.8
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	116,623	95,746	146,625	350	300	382	3,271	3,042	2,955
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	3,116	3,103	2,935	-	3,300	4,600	-	40,500	43,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	37.37	33.33	-	-	-	-	32.52	29.79

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	New Glasgow & Pictou			Sydney			Saint John		
	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed...)	133	119	399	187	151	218	71	55	97
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	32	50	58	66	43	252	728	511	580
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	289	730	794	397	579	704	575	900	990
3. Total jobs available during month.....	321	780	852	463	622	956	1,303	1,411	1,550
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	261	708	792	386	535	639	448	452	633
% casual placements.....	14.2	6.8	3.2	28.0	18.4	12.8	19.2	19.9	12.6
5. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	30	32	28	59	66	229	254	728	556
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	904	1,217	2,486	2,742	3,154	3,694	1,617	1,522	2,440
% female.....	19.1	16.8	6.6	15.9	18.4	12.3	9.1	10.3	8.5
% veterans.....	37.6	31.9	48.2	34.9	26.2	45.9	53.6	47.9	48.1
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	"	11.4	44.1	"	22.6	49.9	"	39.1	35.3
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	8.2	"	4.7	11.8	"	10.5	13.7	"	14.0
% 20 - 45 "	56.2	"	70.5	52.7	"	77.0	61.8	"	63.3
% 45 - 50 "	18.8	"	15.9	15.1	"	8.6	17.6	"	15.9
% over 50 "	16.8	"	8.9	20.4	"	3.9	6.9	"	6.8
2. Applicants registered during month.....	832	1,059	1,167	1,557	1,469	1,692	1,658	1,209	1,657
3. Total workers available during month..	1,736	2,276	3,653	4,300	4,623	5,386	3,275	2,731	4,097
% referred.....	23.7	46.7	38.7	16.9	29.2	16.2	17.5	23.9	24.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	1,617	904	2,435	3,111	2,742	4,071	2,090	1,617	2,502
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	"	7,600	6,100	"	18,200	18,700	"	29,300	25,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	31.81	29.65

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed....	31	20	51	120	103	118	20	18	26
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	2,168	1,396	2,104	336	739	425	12,537	15,615	19,909
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	1,784	2,350	1,309	336	577	322	10,752	12,870	13,697
3. Total jobs available during month.....	3,952	3,746	3,413	672	1,316	747	23,289	28,485	33,606
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	157	220	162	161	242	126	6,939	7,574	6,405
% casual placements.....	0.6	-	-	3.7	0.8	-	9.8	12.5	10.6
5. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	1,648	2,168	1,147	259	336	437	9,023	12,537	18,442
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	207	195	327	970	1,126	1,032	9,283	8,527	12,935
% female. ....	68.1	72.8	46.2	54.6	52.8	26.9	24.9	24.5	16.3
% veterans.....	7.2	2.1	9.0	17.3	9.9	35.6	17.8	18.0	22.9
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	-	-	5.6	-	9.0	32.3	-	10.4	12.6
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	28.0	-	16.8	17.5	-	14.0	9.8	-	7.3
% 20 - 45 "	58.0	-	63.5	61.4	-	67.3	53.8	-	50.9
% 46 - 50 "	8.2	-	12.3	13.0	-	10.9	21.4	-	19.0
% over 60 "	5.8	-	7.4	8.1	-	7.8	15.0	-	22.8
2. Applicants registered during month.....	414	353	420	855	791	655	14,106	14,528	18,540
3. Total workers available during month.....	621	548	747	1,825	1,917	1,687	23,389	23,055	31,475
% referred.....	53.5	54.2	30.3	19.0	22.7	14.3	49.7	53.3	38.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	323	207	344	1,131	970	1,244	10,062	9,283	12,666
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	10,400	6,800	-	9,400	10,500	-	505,100	484,700
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35.99	33.33

x Figures subject to revision

Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	83	68	124	71	54	89	15	9	17
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	1,341	1,954	1,897	43	56	185	288	381	326
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	1,847	2,043	2,521	283	294	299	669	603	363
3. Total jobs available during month.....	3,188	3,997	4,418	326	350	484	957	984	689
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	1,057	1,121	945	256	254	249	430	390	247
% casual placements.....	0.4	0.9	1.6	-	-	-	9.3	6.9	10.1
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	903	1,341	2,056	26	43	59	269	288	184
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	5,237	4,616	7,733	738	620	881	189	165	259
% female.....	55.2	56.8	39.8	66.3	61.3	42.7	40.2	43.6	21.6
% veterans.....	13.7	12.1	19.6	2.4	3.2	11.5	21.2	12.7	18.5
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	-	7.5	13.6	-	1.8	9.5	-	1.8	11.2
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	21.2	-	14.9	21.7	-	10.3	35.3	-	15.5
% 20 - 45 ".....	65.3	-	71.4	64.4	-	70.7	43.4	-	57.1
% 46 - 50 ".....	8.5	-	10.1	6.5	-	9.7	7.9	-	16.0
% over 60 ".....	5.0	-	3.6	7.4	-	9.3	13.2	-	11.4
2. Applicants registered during month.....	4,317	3,625	4,956	702	547	664	798	596	571
3. Total workers available during month.....	9,554	8,241	12,689	1,440	1,167	1,545	987	761	830
% referred.....	25.0	30.5	15.1	21.9	29.4	20.6	74.1	81.1	54.9
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	6,401	5,237	8,465	968	738	907	302	189	346
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	-	77,100	68,100	-	13,600	10,200	-	20,400	19,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	32.20	28.70	-	-	-	-	32.12	27.68

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Sorel			Three Rivers			Valleyfield		
	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)....	46	27	72	34	36	97	78	70	108
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	79	112	99	207	248	169	97	174	357
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	231	208	454	328	418	509	161	186	693
3. Total jobs available during month.....	310	320	553	535	666	678	258	360	1,050
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	145	139	121	163	213	164	144	132	352
% casual placements.....	-	-	-	16.6	7.5	0.6	-	-	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	26	79	93	164	207	197	95	97	241
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	271	298	507	1,403	2,116	2,927	438	423	646
% female.....	17.3	14.4	20.3	33.7	23.7	21.7	50.7	53.2	30.8
% veterans.....	8.1	3.4	9.7	11.1	9.5	14.9	9.4	6.6	9.3
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	-	2.3	6.9	-	6.9	11.7	-	4.5	5.3
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	12.2	-	12.1	20.3	-	20.4	16.4	-	16.3
% 20 - 45 "	56.8	-	65.0	63.9	-	64.9	61.4	-	62.3
% 46 - 50 "	17.3	-	13.5	9.1	-	11.7	14.4	-	14.5
% over 60 "	13.7	-	9.4	6.7	-	3.0	7.8	-	6.9
2. Applicants registered during month.....	476	284	605	986	739	1,225	369	335	778
3. Total workers available during month.....	747	582	1,112	2,389	2,855	4,152	807	758	1,424
% referred.....	27.2	32.0	19.7	22.5	24.3	9.5	23.5	24.4	30.7
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	464	1,271	593	1,305	1,403	3,319	490	438	680
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	10,000	8,200	-	38,900	34,300	-	6,300	6,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	37.23	31.99	-	-	-

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Brantford			Ft. William & Pt. Arthur			Hamilton		
	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed....	23	21	19	25	21	75	31	28	60
<b>Jobs:</b>									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	664	807	507	4,632	4,503	7,135	2,915	4,255	1,607
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	671	723	935	3,838	4,185	8,651	2,191	2,965	3,374
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,335	1,530	1,442	8,470	8,688	15,789	5,106	7,220	4,981
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	397	418	365	2,055	1,159	2,432	1,648	1,921	1,859
% casual placements.....	6.0	7.9	8.5	0.6	1.1	0.2	18.0	16.6	18.3
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	398	664	479	678	4,532	2,505	1,883	2,915	1,653
<b>Workers:</b>									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	372	314	369	564	460	1,678	2,465	2,177	5,551
% female.....	44.1	33.8	33.9	53.0	56.1	38.7	24.8	28.5	21.0
% veterans.....	32.0	25.5	20.9	22.7	14.5	20.4	15.9	23.7	33.9
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more....	-	15.3	14.0	-	5.5	10.4	-	10.2	19.2
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	19.9	-	12.1	11.2	-	9.2	17.3	-	11.9
% 20 - 45 ".....	48.4	-	47.8	62.2	-	65.2	50.5	-	57.8
% 46 - 50 ".....	15.9	-	19.5	14.0	-	13.4	19.2	-	21.7
% over 60 ".....	15.8	-	20.6	12.6	-	12.2	13.0	-	8.6
2. Applicants registered during month.....	867	815	582	1,462	1,215	2,315	3,831	4,095	4,023
3. Total workers available during month.....	1,239	1,129	945	2,026	1,875	3,994	5,296	6,272	9,554
% referred.....	45.8	53.9	55.4	52.2	58.8	45.2	60.6	71.3	43.8
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	420	372	308	687	564	1,771	2,761	2,465	4,474
<b>Employment:</b>									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	-	18,100	16,600	-	27,100	23,700	-	89,100	74,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	41.48	35.68	-	38.73	33.17

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Kingston			Kitchener			London		
	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)	42	34	34	4	4	7	29	19	26
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	236	307	335	860	1,249	1,416	1,625	2,031	1,820
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	419	670	964	732	989	1,828	1,799	2,265	2,564
3. Total jobs available during month....	655	977	1,299	1,592	2,238	3,244	3,424	4,296	4,384
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	304	425	625	421	437	519	1,119	1,242	1,431
% casual placements.....	4.3	2.3	2.6	1.4	2.5	0.4	14.0	16.8	13.0
5. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	179	236	281	624	860	1,155	1,241	1,625	1,463
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	587	660	559	143	155	246	675	576	765
% female.....	30.0	28.5	34.9	12.6	12.9	12.2	28.0	36.3	26.4
% veterans.....	39.9	31.4	28.4	24.5	14.2	42.3	49.9	34.7	36.7
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more...	-	25.5	24.5	-	4.5	11.8	-	13.4	9.3
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	18.7	-	20.9	23.1	-	16.5	13.5	-	18.5
% 20 - 45 ".....	56.0	-	49.4	42.6	-	54.7	49.0	-	43.7
% 46 - 50 ".....	15.9	-	18.4	14.7	-	11.8	20.5	-	17.9
% over 60 ".....	9.4	-	11.3	19.6	-	17.0	17.0	-	19.9
2. Applicants registered during month...	848	796	969	522	530	729	2,062	1,766	2,302
3. Total workers available during month...	1,435	1,456	1,528	665	685	975	2,737	2,342	3,067
% referred.....	39.9	53.8	65.6	93.5	96.6	89.7	75.7	88.9	81.8
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	731	587	580	168	143	258	1,011	675	875
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	17,400	17,300	-	38,700	34,900	-	35,300	33,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	37.37	29.66	-	34.97	31.58

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	28	18	25	69	65	93	53	53	58
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	174	263	270	369	709	453	953	1,391	1,494
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	340	516	544	689	826	638	1,713	1,892	2,171
3. Total jobs available during month.....	514	779	814	1,058	1,535	1,091	2,676	3,283	3,665
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	248	356	399	471	654	394	776	922	1,053
% casual placements.....	-	1.7	1.5	7.6	2.8	-	20.0	13.6	-
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	89	174	183	203	369	307	868	963	1,103
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	339	247	346	1,261	1,241	1,796	3,296	3,237	3,201
% female.....	31.9	34.4	31.5	46.0	49.2	54.2	53.2	57.3	52.7
% veterans.....	27.7	23.9	24.9	18.6	19.6	21.9	21.2	20.3	28.2
% veterans unemployed 15 days or more.....	-	13.0	13.6	-	8.3	15.3	-	14.4	10.4
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	20.1	-	17.0	23.8	-	15.0	12.4	-	12.4
% 20 - 45 ".....	48.4	-	54.6	59.0	-	68.2	57.9	-	51.6
% 46 - 50 ".....	14.4	-	10.7	10.9	-	12.6	22.2	-	23.2
% over 60 ".....	17.1	-	17.7	6.3	-	4.2	7.5	-	12.6
2. Applicants registered during month.....	639	626	677	1,079	1,211	1,103	2,502	2,697	3,299
3. Total workers available during month.....	978	873	1,023	2,340	2,452	2,899	5,798	5,934	6,500
% referred.....	41.7	65.4	58.9	37.8	39.9	23.8	27.8	29.1	34.3
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	535	339	426	1,347	1,261	1,698	3,274	3,296	3,550
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	18,800	17,000	-	19,400	15,200	-	62,000	61,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.93	28.45

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Peterborough			St. Catharines			Sault Ste. Marie		
	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	18	20	22	38	28	47	14	14	34
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	164	219	438	422	766	257	1,155	962	2,238
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	460	486	727	641	989	1,130	429	707	1,525
3. Total jobs available during month....	624	705	1,165	1,063	1,755	1,387	1,584	1,669	3,763
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	371	419	511	435	563	632	295	342	515
5. % casual placements.....	-	-	-	0.2	3.0	4.3	-	-	-
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	116	164	356	246	422	249	500	1,155	1,103
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	514	396	392	888	702	1,235	258	251	1,061
2. % female.....	20.0	8.3	11.5	38.5	31.3	43.8	79.5	83.3	30.3
3. % veterans.....	24.7	37.6	37.5	24.0	30.9	23.0	4.3	6.0	10.3
4. % vets. unplaced 15 days or more....	-	18.7	17.6	-	6.4	11.4	-	4.8	5.5
Age distribution:									
5. % under 20 years.....	24.9	-	12.2	20.3	-	15.9	20.9	-	10.2
6. % 20 - 45 ".....	53.1	-	51.8	59.2	-	62.3	65.5	-	65.0
7. % 46 - 50 ".....	10.3	-	24.1	13.7	-	15.3	7.0	-	18.1
8. % over 60 ".....	11.7	-	11.9	6.8	-	6.5	6.6	-	6.7
9. Applicants registered during month....	795	894	855	1,281	1,393	1,366	410	448	541
10. Total workers available during month..	1,309	1,290	1,247	2,169	2,095	2,601	668	699	1,602
11. % referred.....	57.4	68.3	74.5	40.0	48.9	41.3	52.5	58.9	22.6
12. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	462	514	520	1,187	888	1,401	257	258	515
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	25,200	23,800	-	31,600	29,500	-	18,000	15,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Sudbury			Toronto			Welland		
	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	19	19	37	18	16	22	43	42	86
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	1,628	2,095	3,055	18,327	21,219	20,054	327	370	361
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	841	1,677	2,305	16,104	19,454	23,797	280	552	498
3. Total jobs available during month.....	2,469	3,772	5,360	34,431	40,673	43,851	607	922	859
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	1,090	1,193	1,059	8,477	8,487	7,127	166	226	319
% casual placements.....	4.9	5.8	4.1	3.6	18.1	11.5	4.8	1.3	2.2
5. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	292	1,628	2,489	11,824	18,327	19,254	312	327	245
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	652	619	923	6,137	5,420	9,290	441	350	836
% female.....	42.6	34.7	40.6	21.3	19.4	11.0	49.9	55.4	48.1
% veterans.....	15.2	16.0	20.2	36.6	34.6	44.6	14.5	8.6	16.0
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	-	6.8	8.7	-	17.6	20.4	-	2.9	8.4
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	21.9	-	19.5	10.1	-	4.3	20.5	-	18.6
% 20 - 45 ".....	58.0	-	58.8	54.4	-	51.7	59.3	-	62.5
% 46 - 50 ".....	11.2	-	12.3	19.5	-	25.9	11.6	-	13.9
% over 60 ".....	8.9	-	9.4	16.0	-	18.1	8.6	-	5.0
2. Applicants registered during month.....	1,069	1,137	1,458	14,394	13,601	13,507	481	574	648
3. Total workers available during month...	1,721	1,756	2,381	20,531	19,021	22,797	922	924	1,484
% referred.....	51.6	57.6	53.8	66.9	72.3	56.7	44.9	56.3	39.6
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	652	652	1,099	6,963	6,137	8,423	453	441	823
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	34,600	29,900	-	381,100	387,800	-	10,500	9,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	38.13	33.59	-	-	-

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	61	53	141	48	38	56	32	21	36
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	241	399	232	4,279	4,345	3,734	454	524	565
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	1,313	1,362	1,216	6,385	6,184	7,500	1,193	1,594	1,867
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,554	1,761	1,448	10,664	10,529	11,234	1,647	2,118	2,432
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	916	1,057	874	4,260	3,901	4,029	977	1,137	1,269
% casual placements.....	38.3	36.1	21.9	30.8	35.9	30.3	35.0	32.5	30.8
5. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	364	241	236	2,838	4,279	4,075	248	454	449
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	3,059	3,024	7,328	5,329	4,531	7,298	683	492	925
% female.....	47.8	57.0	25.2	37.1	33.8	24.6	22.8	34.3	19.1
% veterans.....	22.2	17.2	28.0	35.7	28.6	39.0	54.6	51.8	37.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	-	10.3	24.0	-	13.3	21.1	-	46.7	33.9
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	16.8	-	11.0	11.6	-	9.9	18.6	-	19.5
% 20 - 45 " .....	63.6	-	69.1	58.6	-	60.5	49.2	-	47.6
% 46 - 50 " .....	14.5	-	16.6	17.6	-	17.3	21.4	-	21.3
% over 60 " .....	5.1	-	3.3	12.2	-	12.3	10.8	-	11.6
2. Applicants registered during month.....	2,936	2,836	4,045	10,331	8,208	9,386	2,216	2,183	3,266
3. Total workers available during month...	5,995	5,860	11,373	15,660	12,739	16,684	2,899	2,675	4,191
% referred.....	26.2	32.5	14.6	50.2	53.8	46.6	65.8	80.4	62.5
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	3,485	3,059	7,064	6,649	5,329	8,104	1,045	683	1,191
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	57,500	50,100	-	139,500	144,300	-	32,900	32,700
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	45.00	36.90	-	33.74	31.07	-	32.57	29.76

x Figures subject to revision.



Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov. (x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1,000 employed)...	34	29	47	49	38	69	32	27	43
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	426	665	563	919	987	985	1,485	1,338	2,299
2. Vacancies notified during month.....	730	1,170	832	2,031	2,654	2,171	3,617	3,502	4,087
3. Total jobs available during month.....	1,156	1,835	1,395	2,950	3,671	3,156	5,102	4,840	6,386
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	511	622	538	1,588	1,991	1,666	3,069	2,369	3,062
% casual placements.....	29.0	24.6	28.3	18.8	17.7	16.4	12.4	18.7	13.3
5. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	309	426	335	555	912	708	865	1,485	938
Workers:									
1. Unplaced applicants, first of month.....	1,356	1,102	1,479	1,948	1,799	2,747	1,940	1,569	2,367
% female.....	38.1	46.0	29.3	34.0	32.4	24.0	35.5	35.0	21.6
% veterans.....	26.2	29.3	30.8	46.9	36.2	43.5	31.4	29.1	39.4
% veterans unplaced 15 days or more.....	-	16.6	14.0	-	22.3	23.2	-	11.7	15.8
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	16.3	-	16.6	12.2	-	11.7	19.6	-	12.9
% 20 - 45 "	62.3	-	58.7	52.7	-	57.3	55.2	-	56.6
% 46 - 50 "	12.7	-	16.7	20.6	-	18.6	16.1	-	19.5
% over 60 "	7.7	-	8.0	14.5	-	12.4	9.1	-	11.0
2. Applicants registered during month.....	1,938	1,771	2,601	3,420	3,100	3,699	5,207	4,237	5,756
3. Total workers available during month.....	3,294	2,823	4,080	5,368	4,899	6,446	7,147	5,906	8,123
% referred.....	43.0	51.2	41.8	44.5	57.5	38.9	60.0	63.4	52.5
4. Unplaced applicants, end of month.....	1,600	1,356	2,123	2,530	1,948	3,411	2,281	1,940	3,082
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	-	47,500	45,100	-	51,400	49,400	-	70,600	72,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	33.11	29.85	-	35.30	32.60	-	33.75	31.00

x Figures subject to revision

Item	Trail			Vancouver			Victoria		
	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946	Nov.(x) 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed)...	21	14	43	78	65	81	41	36	49
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	64	314	203	1,901	3,200	3,748	334	555	603
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	147	202	426	4,802	6,670	9,574	723	785	1,632
3. Total jobs available during month.....	211	516	629	6,703	9,870	13,322	1,057	1,340	2,235
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	79	307	396	3,119	4,482	5,224	523	585	1,066
% casual placements.....	5.1	-	-	17.6	16.0	15.0	18.4	17.1	20.5
5. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	77	64	137	1,485	1,901	2,600	285	334	547
Workers:									
1. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	136	161	354	13,448	11,793	13,923	1,678	1,484	1,900
% female.....	58.1	42.5	46.9	25.2	26.3	19.9	25.4	19.9	23.5
% veterans.....	29.4	9.9	19.8	41.0	39.0	39.3	30.2	35.2	42.0
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	-	4.3	12.7	-	25.2	21.3	-	25.1	27.4
Age distribution:									
% under 20 years.....	15.5	-	12.6	10.3	-	7.7	10.8	-	11.8
% 20 - 45 ".....	63.2	-	57.2	55.3	-	53.3	40.2	-	40.9
% 46 - 50 ".....	13.2	-	13.9	24.0	-	27.1	31.3	-	27.1
% over 60 ".....	8.1	-	16.3	10.4	-	11.9	17.7	-	20.2
2. Applicants registered during month.....	246	323	465	13,999	14,498	16,345	1,738	1,580	2,478
3. Total workers available during month...	382	484	819	27,447	26,291	30,268	3,416	3,064	4,378
% referred.....	27.0	59.1	45.9	19.4	29.1	28.3	26.0	34.1	32.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	209	136	396	16,265	13,448	15,620	1,919	1,678	2,313
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	10,000	9,200	-	208,400	193,100	-	47,200	47,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	37.67	34.55	-	36.38	31.80

x Figures subject to revision.

















